

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND
China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LXVII.]

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DEATH.

At No. 8 Police Station, at 2.05 a.m. on the 25th May, Police Inspector DAVID DOUGLAS CUTHBERT, aged 47 years, dearly beloved husband of Barbara A. Cuthbert. Deeply mourned

Hongkong Weekly Press.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.

LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The German Mail of the 5th ult., arrived by the N.D.L. steamer *Kleist*, on the 2nd inst.

The French Mail of the 8th ult., arrived by the M.M. str., *Polynisien*, on the 8th inst.

FAR EASTERN NEWS.

A dispatch from Tientsin states that the first sod of the Tientsin-Pukou Railway was cut on May 29 at that port, and that a large number of officials were present, including H. E. Lu Hai-huan, Director of the Railway.

H.E. the Governor has given his assent, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty the King, to the following Ordinance passed by the Legislative Council:—Ordinance No. 10 of 1908.—An Ordinance for the transfer of the properties of the Man Mo Temple to the Tung Wa Hospital.

It is understood that Dr. S. P. Barchet American Assessor Shanghai has resigned from the American Consular Service, and that his resignation has been accepted.

At the Shanghai Mixed Court on May 27th, a baker called Yu Tung-tsan was charged with having squirted dirty water from his mouth over bread intended for sale, thereby endangering the public health. Insp. Hugall of the Health Department stated that he caught the accused in the act of squirting dirty water from his mouth on to some bread which he was making, and which was intended for foreign consumption. Accused was fined \$5 and warned that if he repeated the offence he would be severely punished.

A Chinese Imperial Edict of May 27 says:—Owing to the fact that the country round about Peking has not had a sufficiency of rain since the opening of the summer term, We recently commanded Prince Chun and others to pray for rain, but, in spite of Our prayers, no rain has fallen. Therefore We again order Princes Chun, Li, Tsai Jun, Tsai Hsun and Pu Lin, and the Imperial noble Tsai Fu to proceed once more to the various temples to offer special prayers for rain on the 2nd day of the 5th moon (May 31).

Returns of the average amount of bank-notes in circulation and of specie in reserve in Hongkong, during the month ended 31st May, 1908, as certified by the managers of the respective banks,

Banks.	Average Amount.	Specie in Reserve.
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China ...	\$ 3,683,358	\$ 2,800,000
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation...	14,470,281	10,000,000
National Bank of China, Limited	204,635	150,000
Total.....	\$18,358,274	12,950,000

A *Daily Press* telegram dated Tokyo, June 6th, said:—Colonel Martin, P.M.O. of Hongkong (who was in Japan on a holiday) has been drowned in Lake Chuzenji, near Nikko. On Friday Colonel Martin put out alone in a small boat for some fishing. The wind rose and the boat capsized. On the news reaching the Kanaya Hotel the friends of Colonel Martin were alarmed and the police informed. An extensive search was made for the corpse by the police and villagers but without success. The lake is 150 feet deep and being weedy it is presumed that the body is entangled. The Navy Department is sending diving apparatus. In his angling expedition Colonel Martin was accompanied by a Sando (boatsman). When 400 yards from shore a cloud appeared above Nantiyama and a squall, followed by a strong northwesterly breeze, struck the lake. The boat was tossed about and finally upset. Both men clung to the bottom and tried to right her. The Colonel, disregarding the Sando's advice, attempted to swim ashore, taking an oar with him. When 150 yards away the Sando noticed that the Colonel was in difficulties and swam to his assistance, but a few minutes later he saw the officer disappear. The Sando, feeling exhausted, returned to the boat and succeeded in gaining the shore two hours later. He reported the facts at the hotel, and a search was immediately instituted but the body was not found. The British Embassy, on being informed sent divers to the lake.

The wettest day during May was the 12th, when 0.490 inches were registered; the total rainfall for the month was 1.325. There were 219.3 hours of sunshine in May, the most recorded on one day being 12 hours on the 22nd.

A SHANGHAI BOUNDARY DISPUTE.

FOREIGN CONSTABLE ATTACKED.

The *N.C. Daily News* of May 28 says:—The West Hongkong police had a brush with the Taotai's native police in North Chekiang Road yesterday, and as a result Police Constable Sinclair was wounded on the head. The cause of the trouble is an old standing boundary dispute. The artificial boundary of the Settlement runs down the middle of North Chekiang Road and there is a post situated opposite Elgin Road which states that the Settlement boundary is a certain number of feet to the East, which would bring it at about the centre of the roadway. The road, however, is municipal property and the municipal authorities are entitled to police it. What the native authorities desire, apparently, is that the Council shall police the Eastern half of the road and the Taotai's police the Western portion.

The present trouble began on Tuesday evening, when some of the Paoshan police were taken to the West Hongkong station for patrolling the roadway. This did not end the matter, for yesterday morning more of these police were arrested by members of the Municipal Police force, a special patrol having been detailed for duty on the disputed territory. The captured men were subsequently released, the Taotai undertaking that they would appear at the Mixed Court to-morrow morning. Finding the foreign force augmented the Paoshan police followed the example of the Settlement constabulary, and at about noon the climax was reached when about thirty of the native police seized foreign P. C. 177 and rushed him up an alleyway, which is indisputably outside the Settlement limits. P. C. Sinclair had tried to drive the natives off the road, but he failed, and they struck him, dragged him about thirty yards up the alley-way and tried to take him a prisoner to the local Magistrate's yamen. The constable, however, got one of his arms free, drew his truncheon and beat off his assailants, but he sustained a wound on the head and his uniform was torn.

Meanwhile an Indian constable had taken the news to the West Hongkong station that the Paoshan police had captured a foreigner and headquarters was notified. Lieut.-Colonel C. D. Bruce and Mr. K. J. McEuen arrived on the scene on motor car and demanded at the yamen of the Paoshan Magistrate that he should hand over the men who had assaulted P. C. Sinclair, but the Magistrate declined to do this.

The proper authorities have been notified and developments are anticipated. Last night the Paoshan police were to be seen standing in the entrance to the alleyway and the Municipal Police were patrolling the road.

The incident clearly illustrates the unsatisfactory nature of the present condition of the boundary question and we must hope that a speedy solution will be found in a further extension of the Settlement.

A BIG SHIP.

(Daily Press, May 30th.)

It is a pity that all the stirrers up of strife in San Francisco, the rabid scribblers whom it is our shame to have to recognise as brother journalists, could not have been collected on board the "Tenyo Maru" yesterday to listen to the sane and sensible comments of the American Consul here. Their opportunity will doubtless come when the wonderful new steamer gains the other side of the Pacific, and we hope that it will make some difference to their attitude towards a phenomenon that foreigners are partly responsible for evoking. To walk over the "Tenyo Maru" yesterday was to marvel at the changes possible in so short a time as three or four decades. When each individual of the company assembled at tiffin was a puling infant or a whining schoolboy, the Japanese dreamed of no ship larger than an ordinary sized junk. How a nation may wax as fast as an individual was illustrated by this wonderful steamer, the first turbine-propelled craft in local waters, with decks so numerous that the alphabet has had to be employed to identify one from another. The mere figures, enormous as they are, of displacement and tonnage, convey no adequate idea of this triumph of Japanese ambition, enterprise, and ship-building. The drawing-room by itself was impressive, and examples the distinctive artistic taste of our allies in a striking way. Panels of perfection, hangings of great price, furniture that would be congruous in a royal palace ashore, and the whole edifice and compilation—mirabile dictu—a mass of flotsam to be exposed to the mercy of the winds and waves. Our grandfathers who went to sea in quite other fashion would have stared aghast to see such magnificence; to them any forecast indicating a bare half of the luxury and comfort aboard the Toyo Kisen Kaisha's new leviathan would have been ridiculed as Utopian and impossible. As the public of Hongkong is invited to inspect the steamer to-day, we gladly accept that excuse for not attempting to describe the wonders they will see for themselves. It is like Barnum's Greatest Show on Earth, or a modern International Exhibition, too big to take in at one visit. We prefer to dwell on the excellent tone imparted to the proceedings yesterday by the intellectual and thoroughly Christian Consul who represents the United States in this Colony. The mere fact that an official representative of America should have blessed the ceremony with amicable wishes and human sympathy on such a concrete instance of Japanese competition is a great thing, worthy of special note, and we commend his utterances to the consideration of all who have been allowing the bases emotions of trade rivalry to sway their judgment. As hosts our Japanese friends are unsurpassable; as business competitors they are far from being so intolerable as some people would have us believe. The "Tenyo Maru" is a concrete illustration of the fact that they are our equals in more respects than we have been supposing. It is a triumph of shipbuilding, a banner of enterprise, and we can do no less than pay the usual courtesies of the knightly arena, and wish them the success they deserve.

At the shipbuilding yard of Messrs. W. Bailey & Co. on May 31 the steamer "Hanping" was launched for the Hanyang Iron and Steel Works, Hankow. Miss Queenie Lambert performed the christening ceremony. The vessel, a steel screw steamer, is the largest yet launched by the company.

"PAY, PAY, PAY"

(Daily Press, 1st June.)

It does not seem to us an unreasonable suggestion that the Imperial Government should be asked to compensate the ratepayers of this Colony for the loss of revenue caused by their order to close the opium divans, and a comfortable and quite feasible way of doing so would be to forgive us the annual military contribution. The same Government that so hastily decided to deprive us of a million and a half dollars a year would possibly just as promptly decide to grant a petition asking for such a simple method of restitution. The reformers at Home by whose desire the instructions were sent to Hongkong would possibly appreciate such an opportunity of proving their good faith, and be glad, having chosen the tune, to pay the piper. At any rate, they should be given the chance; it is not like sending them a scolding; there could be no possible harm in asking; and it is almost certain that if we ask for nothing we will get it. There is little to be gained by going over the old arguments to show that we have been paying far too much in the shape of military contribution, and we do not think the argument of our correspondent, that we ought not to have been paying it at all, will impress the Government very much, though it may elicit ejaculatory approval from the ratepayers. The position is so much altered now by the loss of the revenue from opium that it can fairly be represented to the authorities at Home that we can no longer afford to make such contribution. To go on paying it, and to have to increase the heavy burden already being borne by the Hongkong ratepayer, would seem sufficiently hard to warrant a comparison of our situation with that of the groaning ratepayers of Macao. We sympathise when we read of the exactions made there, for Timor, and for the rapacious officials of Lisbon, and we say such injustice would never be tolerated in an English colony. Yet if the Imperial Government does not excuse us from further military contribution after making such a big hole in our income, we shall not be in much better case than the Macanese, and the irony of the situation will be patent in the fact that Hongkong's ratepayers have been unjustly treated in the name and cause of moral reform.

BRED IN THE BONE.

(Daily Press, 2nd June.)

The human nervous system is more liable to disease than the rest of the body, and such disease appears to be more readily transmissible by the myterious processes of heredity. The chief reason is supposed to be this, that the nervous organs are pre-eminently intricate and complex; as the biologist puts it, "nerve cells are the most highly differentiated." Broadly speaking, this is an intimation that complexity implies weakness, or greater susceptibility to disturbance. Thus a lady's watch is more easily injured than a large clock, and a modern free-wheel bicycle of varied gear is less enduring than an old-fashioned "ordinary." The more excellent and admirable the mechanism, the greater the possibility of "something going wrong." It is also stated that "characters of recent origin tend to be more unstable than those of ancient date; and the differentiation of man's brain is relatively recent compared with that of his food canal." Civilization is more recent than barbarism, and therefore it is more unstable. This is a highly interesting point for consideration, and suggests more numerous considerations

than we propose to deal with in these casual comments. The reflective reader, with this stimulus, may go on to think out for himself the bearing upon such subjects as the decadence of that fine-race the Maori, under civilization, the virtual extinction of the Australian aborigines, and the process of acquired character devolution now being forced gradually upon the Papuans by the Australian Government. Sticking to the generalities we had in mind at the outset, we may mention that Hongkong at this season is offering illustration of the veneer-like nature of "civilization," and of the strong tendency to renaissance that there is in the more ancient and stable habit, given suitable conditions. The cruising, camping, and picnic season is now on, and it is to be noted to what an extent the "methods of barbarism" really contribute to the pleasure of these outings. Very few of the men seem to trouble to analyse their emotions, to think why they enjoy themselves so much—and this in itself is symptomatic of the natural state, in which man is more of a day-dreamer than a thinker, and probably never an introspective thinker. When subjected to a series of searching questions, however, they are mostly willing to admit that the possibility of reverting to a minimum of clothing, a minimum of furniture, and a vanishing point of etiquette, is an appreciable factor in the sum of their happiness. It is an interesting study to contemplate two or three men in a yacht for a week-end, and to watch their conduct as we have repeatedly done of late. The man who when in Victoria is noted for his immaculate collars, and who would be rendered miserable if an office colleague were to point out a grease-spot on his carefully pressed clothes, cheerfully exists for two days in some far away creek or bay in a filthy pair of duck inexpressibles and an old coat, with two days' beard and unbrushed hair. At his "mess" he would earnestly berate the boy over a glass not carefully wiped, a hair in his soup, or a serviette showing traces of previous use. Beyond Fu-tau-mun, or even in some more easily accessible bay, he will uncritically devour "chow" that has been inexpertly cooked on a "chattie," and cavil never an instant because the spoon that turned the eggs and sliced potatoes in the frying-pan is the only one available with which to dig out the condensed milk. His bed at night is a spinnaker sail spread on the floor of the boat, and his "chota hazri" on waking is just what he feels energetic enough to prepare for himself. All the way back to Hongkong he is care-free and aglow with the happiness he has found, and immediately he steps ashore, he is once more a prey to convention and a victim to the petty worries that civilization imposes. How is it these should be so important in the street, and so easily disregarded by him in the wilds? The suggestion is that the voyager is a phenomenon of reversion; and that the magnet of civilization only pulls when one comes within its limited radius of attraction.

THE REAL ISSUE.

(Daily Press, 3rd June.)

Those who give any coherent thought to the broad subject of government are not long in coming to the conclusion that it is not one for dogmatism. They discover that there is not, and cannot be any finality about any canon of the art of ruling a nation. The perfect State not only never was in being but also it never was in dream. The ideal of the greatest happiness of the greatest

number obviously permits the unhappiness of the minority, and in a country where the liberty of the subject is considered of immense importance, it has always been found that one man's liberty might be another man's slavery. It even seems sufficiently obvious that if ever a state of things were to exist in which every man enjoyed liberty, the blessing would be of less value, since there would be no less fortunate condition with which to compare it. The opening of the Portuguese Parliament by the young King MANUEL draws attention to the possibility that in two antagonistic systems there may be advantages in both. Under the dictatorship of Senhor FRANCO sundry serious abuses were being abolished, abuses which involved loss and generally detriment to the people. There is no doubt that if the Portuguese people could have been unitedly patient for a while under the chiefly sentimental burden of an unconstitutional system, the Constitution itself could in time have been restored in a healthier condition than it was when FRANCO and the late King took a liberty with it for its own good. There was a parallel there with the treatment of a serious disease by eminent surgeons; a risky operation was projected and begun, and might have resulted in a satisfactory cure. There was, however, abrupt interference by relatives of the patient, and now we must watch and wait for the result. Instead of heroic surgical treatment by FRANCO the Portuguese are attempting a sort of homeopathic method, or, a frivolous critic might suggest, they are pinning their faith on a sort of political Christian-Science. For the new Ministry is a coalition one, formed from the three leading political parties, and much depends upon the faith that animates them. If they should prove incapable, as some lookers-on fear, of sinking their old enmities and jealousies, the patient will be found in more perilous case than ever before. It may even be that things are worse than they seem. In enlightened Britain, we are beginning to be more and more disgusted with the Party system of Government, where the function of the Opposition, which is to oppose nearly all legislation emanating from the other Party, is rarely neglected. This means, as it has often meant in Portugal, the wasting of much time and effort, and consequently little real progress. When, however, the Opposition ceases to oppose, there may be too much progress, and that in a wrong direction. In Britain, the paramount anxiety to "keep the other rascals out" has led to the embracing by the Party "in" of schemes and notions which with minds unembarrassed by such comparatively petty considerations, they might never, in all probability, have entertained. In Portugal it has been somewhat worse, from a sentimental point of view, though perhaps not so very different from the purely utilitarian standpoint, of the best interests of the people. The Parties in Portugal have developed a system of manipulating elections by mutual arrangement, chiefly to accommodate each other in effecting the transfer of office and its spoils. Professional politicians, in fact, have adopted a motto something like "share and share alike" with regard to what is to be got out of politics in the way of personal profit—what the Americans expressively call "boodle." The financial and commercial condition of Portugal at the present day shows how effective such methods have been. No thoughtful and disinterested observer doubts that the recent tragedy was a case of shooting at the crows and hitting the pigeons. Things were undoubtedly at an

evil pass, and the revolutionaries and their kind were not unjustified in feeling some resentment. It only needed a prick to sentiment, a cry of unconstitutional methods, to make them direct their resentment at the wrong parties, with the result that a well-meaning King was slain and a loyal patriot was banished. It is to be hoped that the "frogs" (if we may use another illustration from fable without offence) may not find they have exchanged "King Log" for "King Stork," and that, instead of "devouring the people," the new Ministry will be honest and patriotic. With either a Monarchy or a Republic, Ministers are necessary, and more depends upon their moral character and aims, than upon the theory or system of administration.

THE POWERS AND THE PACIFIC.

(Daily Press, 4th June.)

When at the time commenting on Admiral Sir JOHN FISHER's proposed redistribution of the Fleet in Pacific waters we pointed out some of the objections to the proposed centralisation in the Straits in connection with the withdrawal from Vancouver's Island. Professedly the concentration of the fleet in the waters about the Straits was adopted from strategic reasons, and as long as we held the preponderance of power in the Pacific there was something to be said in its favour: strategy, however, that only takes account of success is a dangerous standby, and in case any untoward circumstance should arise, or some disaster, not necessarily a defeat at the hands of an enemy, to alter our predominance, there would be but one path of escape left, or in case of the blocking of the Canal, we might find ourselves cut off from any means of repair or renewal. In such a case a dockyard at the Straits amidst an alien population, who might even at the time happen to be hostile, would prove a far inferior place of retreat than a harbour on the coast of Vancouver's Island, or in the Gulf of Georgia, where not only are supplies to be had on the spot, but the population is British. Up till the last three years we had uniformly kept here a detachment under the name of the Pacific Squadron, and this had enabled us not only to keep the flag in evidence, but to pose as a genuine Pacific Naval Power; with the advent of a Government which was content that Great Britain, instead of holding her empire by her own right hand, was content to pose as a great Power on sufferance, the first opportunity was taken of Sir JOHN FISHER's concentration policy to reduce our Pacific Fleet to insignificance,—on the alleged ground of economy, but really to use the money saved from the Army and Fleet for the purpose of bribing the Proletariat on a wholesale scale. The result has scarcely been satisfactory even to its authors.

Within the last four years—in fact since Sir JOHN FISHER propounded his scheme of economising the Fleet, the nations of the world at large have seen cause to place the control of the Pacific Ocean on a much higher level; some indeed going so far as to predicate that its command will be the highest ambition of the century. The United States, after unduly neglecting it, suddenly determined to send out its entire battle fleet to restore its sense of warning power; and Japan has been making high bids for its mastery. The comparatively low pitch into which Great Britain's recent neglect of the Great Ocean was bringing her, was recently exemplified by a curious incident:—Canada alone of the great British Colonies felt ashamed to invite the American Battle Fleet. With a line of coast extending from

the 48th to the 55th parallel of north latitude; with possession of by far the finest naval harbours on the west coast of America; running subsidised mail steamers across the Ocean, and to the southern Colonies, and possessing in joint ownership with England and Australia her own telegraphic cable, she yet did not possess a single vessel flying a war flag, nor did England keep a single man-of-war on the station. It was no wonder that she felt herself hopelessly out of the Baby-house, and felt that to extend an invitation to the Battle Fleet alongside her southern neighbours would be only inviting contempt for herself, and still more for the Home Country. The notion has sprung, not of contumacy, but of what cannot be looked upon in any other light than a national feeling of self-respect.

With our actual national preponderance in Pacific waters, and their growing importance in the affairs of the world, the quiet manner in which England's practical withdrawal from the waters of the wide Pacific has been accepted by the Nation is not easily comprehensible, nor the complacent manner in which, without protest of any sort, it has been treated. The protest of the Canadian Government, and its hesitation, on account of the absurdity of the position in which the Home Government had placed it, to extend a similar invitation to that forwarded by every other important Colony is at last beginning to bring the matter home to the great public. Even the Navy League, which has done so much in a quiet way to avert the plotted extinction as a source of power of the Navy has been silent on the subject. Indeed it may be said that the discovery of the importance of the Pacific as a source of political power has been left to President ROOSEVELT. It is a fact on which Europe has been pluming itself for the last ten years, that the United States owing to the condition in which the Navy had been permitted to fall, had been losing their influence in the graver politics of the world. This has been the actuating motive that has impelled Mr. ROOSEVELT onward in the path of reconstruction. The apparent immobility of the Fleet, and its evident avoidance of Pacific waters were beginning to have for the States similar effects to those brought about by British abstention, so the President resolved to cut the knot by ordering out the entire available fleet. How much the public of the State resented the effort, and the amount of weeding out that the Navy itself required to render it capable of undertaking the voyage, are now matters of history. Mr. ROOSEVELT has now the satisfaction of knowing that in spite of the pretended jeers with which his scheme was heralded by an artificially incited American and European mock public opinion, the voyage has actually had the effect contemplated by its author, and has very considerably toned down the defiant attitude assumed by some of the Powers.

Looking at the very similar instance of contempt which we see is being brought about by the planned abstention of England, we can see how very much stronger is the necessity lying on ourselves. As we have mentioned both coasts of Vancouver's Island abound in deep fiords, any one of which almost can be converted into a first class naval harbour and depot. They are within some twelve days journey from England so that reinforcements can be readily sent through our own territory. More than this the country itself abounds in coal and supplies of every sort. Wood and iron are to be found almost anywhere, and iron mines only require a little preliminary encouragement to be able to

compete in the markets of the world; British Columbia and Vancouver's Island are in fact rapidly becoming one of the richest mining fields in the world. The climate is comparable to that of northern France, and the present population, rapidly growing too, is of the purest English stock so that Vancouver is marked out by nature herself as in the near future the headquarters of a great naval power, able to undertake unassisted the command of the entire Pacific. This is the position which for the sake of running after socialistic fads and fancies Great Britain is, with her eyes open, wilfully neglecting. If even a great nation were deliberately running for a fall, that nation is England of the opening century. God grant that wiser instincts may return, before, like the Roman Empire before her, whose worst extravagances she is deliberately following, she fall into a contemptible decay.

ENGLISH MEADOWS.

(Daily Press, June 5th.)

Some Chinamen we may not love, such as the Shanghai baker whose offence is described in a paragraph elsewhere, but there are others with whom we could clasp hands and swear brotherhood. Of such is MAURICE BARING'S Chinese student at Oxford, an interview with whom that journalist publishes in one of the last mail papers received. For English exiles, we begin with the question and answer that struck us most forcibly. "What do you like best in England?" asked Mr. BARING, and the Chinaman said he liked best the gardens, "and the little yellow flowers that are sprinkled like stars on your green grass." The buttercups in the English meadows! What a note to strike in the humid heat of the Hongkong summer! Still, a Chinaman who notices the little yellow flowers that are sprinkled over the green grass of England is an observer we can listen to with great respect; and sure enough, when we study the rest of the interview, we find a keen mental vision, and thoughts as clean and clearcut as the cuckoo-bud. His preference for Chinese rural architecture is explicable, if not to be supported by us; but his reflections on the English cult of "Egger" are wholly pleasing in our eyes. Perpend.

"They talk as if these games and these sports were a solemn affair, a moral or religious question; they said the virtues and the prowess of the English race were founded on these things. They said that competition was the mainspring of life; they seemed to think exercise was the goal of existence. A man whom I saw there and who, I learnt, had been chosen to teach the young on account of his wisdom, told me that competition trained the man to sharpen his faculties; and that the tension which it provoked is in itself a useful training. I do not believe this. A cat or a boa constrictor will lie absolutely idle until it perceives an object worthy of its appetite; it will then catch it and swallow it and once more relapse into repose without thinking of keeping itself 'in training.' But it will lie dormant and rise to the occasion when it occurs. These people who talked of games seem to me to undervalue repose. They forget that repose is the mother of action, and exercise only a frittering away of the same."

He found that our wise elders of Oxford were not wholly wise; let us shelter behind him as he says it, nor accept one jot or tittle of responsibility for so serious a statement. It is again our Chinaman speaking.

They most of them seemed to take for granted that I could not speak English: some of them addressed me in a kind of baby language; one of them spoke French. The professor who spoke to me in this language told me that the French possessed no poetical literature, and he

said the reason of this was that the French language was a bastard language: that it was, in fact, a kind of pigeon Latin. He said when a Frenchman says a girl is 'beaucoup belle' he is using pigeon Latin. The courtesy due to a host prevented me from suggesting that if a Frenchman said 'beaucoup belle' he would be talking pigeon French. Another professor said to me that China would soon develop if she adopted a large Imperial ideal, and that in time the Chinese might attain to a great position in the world, such as the English now held. He said the best means of bringing this about would be to introduce cricket and football into China. I told him that I thought this was improbable, because if the Chinese play games they do not care who is the winner; the fun of the game is to us the improvisation of it as opposed to the organisation which appeals to the people here. Upon which he said that cricket was like a symphony of music. In a symphony every instrument plays its part in obedience to one central will, not for its individual advantage but in order to make a beautiful whole. 'So it is with our games,' he said, 'every man plays his part not for the sake of personal advantage, but so that his side may win; and thus the citizen is taught to sink his own interests in those of the community.' I told him the Chinese did not like symphonies and Western music was intolerable to them for this very reason. Western musicians seem to us to take a musical idea which is only worthy of a penny whistle (and would be very good indeed if played on a penny whistle); and they sit down and make a score of it twenty yards broad, and set a hundred highly-trained and highly-paid musicians to play it. It is the contrast between the tremendous apparatus and waste of energy on one side, and the light and playful character of the business itself on the other, which makes me, a Chinaman, as incapable of appreciating your complicated games as I am of appreciating the complicated symphonies of the Germans or the elaborate rules which their students make with regard to the drinking of beer. We like a man for taking his fun and not missing a joke when he finds it by chance on his way, but we cannot understand his going out of his way to prepare a joke and to make arrangements for having some fun at a certain fixed date. That is why we consider a wayside song, a tune that is heard wandering in the summer darkness, to be better than twenty concerts."

The best of it is that our Chinese visitor knew he had arrived too late. The most admirable Englishmen were all dead. As he put it,

"The English knew how to play once, in the days of Queen Elizabeth, then they had Masques and madrigals and Morris dances and music. A gentleman was ashamed if he did not speak six or seven languages, handle the sword with a deadly dexterity, play chess, and write good sonnets. Men were broken on the wheel for an idea; they were brave, cultivated, and gay; they fought, they played, and they wrote excellent verse. Now they organise games and lay claim to a special morality and to a special mission; they send out missionaries to civilise us savages; and if our people resent having an alien creed stuffed down their throats they take our land and burn our homes in the name of Charity, Progress, and Civilisation?"

He was longing all the time to see a Chinese village once more, built of mud, fenced with mud, muddy-roaded and muddy-baked, with a muddy little stream. "And everywhere the sense of leisure, the absence of hurry and bustle and confusion; the dignity of manners and the grace of expression and of address." How gladly would we exchange with him for the green grass besprinkled with golden cups!

His Excellency the Governor has given his assent, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty the King, to the following Ordinances passed by the Legislative Council:—Ordinance No. 8 of 1908.—An Ordinance to extend the provisions of The Liquor Licenses Ordinance 1898 and to provide for the grant of brewery licenses. Ordinance No. 9 of 1908.—An Ordinance to amend The Evidence Ordinance 1889.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held on June 4th in the Council Chamber.

PRESENT:—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, SIR FREDERICK JOHN DEALTRY LUGARD, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O.
Hon. Mr. F. H. MAY, C.M.G., (Colonial Secretary).
Hon. Mr. W. REES DAVIES (Attorney-General).
Hon. Mr. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial Treasurer).
Hon. Mr. W. CHATHAM, C.M.G. (Director of Public Works).
Hon. Mr. E. A. IRVING (Registrar-General).
Hon. Commander BASIL R. H. TAYLOR, R.N. (Harbour Master).
Hon. Dr. HO KAI, M.B., C.M., C.M.G.
Hon. Sir HENRY BERKELEY, K.C.
Hon. Mr. H. E. POLLOCK, K.C.
Hon. Mr. WEI YUK.
Hon. Mr. H. W. SLADE.
Hon. Mr. MURRAY STEWART.
Mr. C. CLEMENTI (Clerk of Councils).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read, and confirmed.

FINANCE MINUTE.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY, by direction of H.E. the Governor laid on the table Financial minute No. 24 and moved that it be referred to the Finance Committee.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

THE APPROPRIATION BILL.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved the second reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to authorise the appropriation of a supplementary sum of \$166,735.85 to defray the charges of the year 1907.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded and the motion was agreed to.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—I move that the Bill be referred to the Finance Committee.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded and the motion was agreed to.

THE MAN MO TEMPLE.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL moved the second reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance for the transfer of the properties of the Man Mo Temple to the Tung Wa Hospital. He added—It appears that certain hereditaments and premises were some time ago vested in trustees on behalf of the Chinese community in Hongkong, the Man Mo Temple, and it is now desired to transfer this property on behalf of the Tung Wa Hospital. The ordinance was framed with care before I came here and is acceptable to the Chinese community.

Hon. Dr. HO KAI seconded and the motion was agreed to.

The Council resolved itself into committee to consider the Bill clause by clause.

On resuming,

The ATTORNEY GENERAL, having moved the suspension of the standing orders, moved that the Bill having passed through Committee practically without amendments, be read a third time.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded and the motion was agreed to.

CHEMISTS AND DRUGGISTS ORDINANCE.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL moved that the Council resolve itself into committee on the Bill entitled an Ordinance to provide for the registration of chemists and druggists and to regulate the sale of poisons.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded and the motion was agreed to.

In Committee,

Hon. Dr. HO KAI moved the following new subsection (2f.) of section 11: "By any person holding a foreign medical diploma who at the time of the passing of this Ordinance is *bonafide* engaged in medical and surgical practice in this colony provided the medicine supplied is for the use of his own patients only." There are, he said, a certain number of practitioners who are holding diplomas from the University of Tientsin and from the University of Oregon. These Chinese gentlemen who have been trained in western medical science have been in the colony for some

years and are in the habit of dispensing their own medicines to their patients. It would be hard upon them if the passing of this Ordinance prevented them from continuing this practice. I do not wish to encourage strangers who hold foreign diplomas not recognised by this Colony. We have our College of Medicine here. But no injustice should be done to those actually practising in the Colony at the time of the passing of this ordinance.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—That is a system of protection.

Hon. Dr. Ho Kai—They have practised here for so long. We don't want to deprive them of the privilege of dispensing medicines to their patients.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—You allow the Hongkong qualified men but don't allow the men who qualified in Tientsin or Oregon here after?

Hon. Dr. Ho Kai—Yes.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—That is protecting them.

HIS EXCELLENCY said he proposed to introduce the words "medical or" after the word "Foreign" in line 2 of 2 (e) which would give effect to the object the mover of the resolution had in view.

Dr. Ho Kai said that the introduction of these words would go beyond his intention and render it possible to exempt any person hereafter who held such diplomas as he referred to. All he desired was to protect one or two individuals long resident in the Colony who had been dispensing medicines. He however agreed to withdraw his amendment, but asked that the Bill should remain in Committee in order to give the Hon. Attorney General time to study the full effect of the words proposed.

HIS EXCELLENCY said that the exemption of any such person would still remain subject to the approval of the Governor, who would refuse unless there were good grounds shown for exemption such as existed in the cases cited by the Hon. member. He agreed that the Bill should remain in Committee to allow of an alteration of the words if on further consideration it appeared to the government advisable to anquest them.

The Bill was left in committee.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND BUILDINGS ORDINANCE.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved that the committee stage on the Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance 1903 and the Public Health and Buildings Amendment Ordinance 1903 be resumed.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded and the motion was agreed to.

On clause 38, referring to the provision of smoke flues, which was held out at last meeting.

THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS moved that the following proviso be added to the clause: "Provided that in the case of chimneys or smoke-flues requiring to be extended to a greater height than 5 feet above the roof any extension in excess of that height may consist of iron pipes."

Carried.

Clause 44, referring to the proposition to demolish the upper storeys of every third house in insanitary areas was withdrawn and the following was amended Clause submitted:

44. The following section is hereby added to the Principal Ordinance and shall be inserted after Section 154 thereof:—

"154. (1.) Whenever the Governor-in-Council on the representation of the medical officer of health is satisfied that any of the rooms in any block of domestic buildings are so dark as to be dangerous or prejudicial to the health of inmates, he may direct the demolition of all storeys above the lower most storey of every third building in such block and the construction of additional windows for the remaining buildings and the carrying out of such other consequential works as he may deem necessary to render such buildings healthy, and the amount of compensation to be paid to the owners of such buildings as are demolished wholly or in part shall be determined by arbitration in the manner provided by Sections 251 to 254 inclusive of this Ordinance. Provided that whatever alteration or reconstruction of buildings may be involved in the carrying out of any such works it shall not be held to bring such buildings within the scope of sub-section (39) of Section 6 or of Section 180 of this Ordinance.

(2) The cost of any works carried out under this section exclusive of any compensation to owners shall be certified by the Building Authority, and the Governor-in-Council may thereafter impose a special improvement rate upon the owners of such of the adjoining houses as are in the opinion of the Governor-in-Council benefitted by such works, and in such proportions as the Governor-in-Council may decide; such rate not to exceed such annual sum as invested at compound interest at 5 per centum will amount in the period for which the rate is imposed to the total sum so certified as aforesaid with interest thereon at 5 per centum per annum and the period for which such rate is imposed shall not be less than 15 or more than 30 years. Every such rate may be recovered by the Colonial Treasurer in the same manner as if it were a rate imposed under the provisions of the Rating Ordinance 1901.

(3) The Governor in Council may in his discretion permit any part of any works directed under this section to be carried out by the owner at his own cost but subject to such conditions and in accordance with such plans and particulars as the Governor-in-Council may direct to the satisfaction of the Building Authority."

HIS EXCELLENCY said—In connection with this clause I desire to remind the committee of the origin of the scheme which it embodies. The proposal was made in this Council on June 2nd last year by the hon. and learned member on my left Mr. Pollock who used these words: "The best solution laid before the community in connection with cubicles is that mooted some four years ago, namely that in Chinatown upper storeys of every third house should be pulled down with a view to the provision of lateral windows for the houses standing on either side." He added in the course of his speech that though the scheme would cost a considerable amount of money he was not alarmed at that. The cost mentioned amounted to \$8,000,000. He described it as being a thorough scheme and the only one for settling the question once and for all. He added that in his opinion some proportion of the cost should be borne by the Government and some proportion by the owners. At the next meeting of this Council on the 27th June five resolutions were moved by the senior unofficial member, (Dr. Ho Kai) one of which was as follows:—"That the scheme for pulling down the upper storeys of every third house in the blocks of houses in Chinatown and the provision of lateral windows in the upper storeys of the adjacent houses is a desirable and effective scheme." He supported that resolution in a very long and able speech, and explained that it arose from the suggestion made some four or five years previously and which had been considered when the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance of 1903 was drafted. The two main objections then advanced were, firstly, the great cost, and secondly, that the adjoining houses would not be able to stand when the support of the centre house was removed. Those objections were, he said, considered so serious that no provision for the demolition of every third house was inserted in the Bill. The hon. member had gone on to say that the cost of this proposed undertaking was much overrated, and he proposed that only a half or two-thirds of it should be borne by the Government and in the course of his argument he assumed that only one half would be chargeable to the Revenue. Another of his resolutions was that a committee be appointed to consider the whole question. The Government were unable to accept the first resolution involving so serious and drastic a change, but the resolution to appoint a committee was accepted and the Hon. Colonial Secretary, who at that time occupied this chair, announced the committee he proposed to nominate. It consisted of the senior unofficial member, (who had proposed the resolution), the hon. member on my left (Mr. Wei Yuk) who also represents the Chinese (who seconded the resolution), the Hon. Colonial Treasurer (who was chairman), the Hon. Director of Public Works, the Hon. Principal Medical Officer of Health, the Hon. Mr. Keswick, the Hon. Mr. Osborne, and Mr. Ram. The Committee considered the whole question and reported to the Govern-

ment in favour of this scheme for demolishing every third house. Only one member, I think, raised any objection to the proposal, namely Mr. Ram, who did so solely on structural grounds. He thought the adjacent houses would not be able to stand. Mr. Keswick and Mr. Osborne who wrote minutes on the general report did not apparently object to the principle. In consequence of the report of the Cubicle Committee and of the resolutions proposed in this Council the Government after much consideration have inserted this clause which has been considered in some quarters as though it was a scheme proposed by the Government for the embarrassment of property owners. I wished therefore to point out before we discuss the matter in detail what the origin of the clause is and that it is in consequence of the recommendations made by an independent and very representative committee and of the resolutions and speeches made in this Council that this clause has been inserted in this Bill.

The Hon. Mr. STEWART—I move that this section be omitted entirely. I am familiar with the origin of the idea and with all that you have said in describing its development. I base my objection to it in the first place on the problematical nature of the scheme in relation to the structural difficulties which present themselves and in the second place on the risk of its proving disastrous to the financial prospects of property. As has been pointed out by many who speak with authority on the subject, if you demolish partly every third house you would impose a great strain upon the remaining walls. If you have sloping roofs on the lower floor of the house demolished you will have the rain running down it on both sides to the gutters, and you will have a very strong chance of these gutters being blocked by garbage and refuse thrown by the inhabitants of the houses on either side. You may have choked gutters and the result will be that the water would soak into the walls on either side and seriously impair their strength. On the other hand it is pointed out that if you have flat roofs they are bound to leak. There is no cement apparently manufactured that is impervious to rain such as we have here in the summer time. These flat roofs will very likely become a receptacle for refuse from the adjacent houses, and it seems to me there are very great objections to the scheme on that ground. Again another objection occurs to me. If in a typhoon the wind were to strike at an angle into these narrow places there would be a very grave risk of the whole of the buildings coming down like a pack of cards. These are some of the structural objections raised by those who speak with more authority than I do on the subject. There is also the important objection that investors and mortgagors always prefer clean titles. The clause seems to me to introduce an element of uncertainty into the title of property in Chinese houses, and for that reason I think it will militate very seriously against the sale of such property. It seems to me that a scheme of resumption is preferable in every way to this idea for which, while the Government was not responsible originally, they will make themselves responsible if they insist upon passing this clause. I therefore move to omit it entirely.

The Hon. Sir HENRY BARKLEY—I second the amendment of the hon. member and press the Government to accept it and delete this clause from the Bill, thereby saving a great deal of future trouble in this colony. It is true that the clause makes its appearance in the Bill as the result of the recommendations of the committee appointed in the circumstances referred to by your Excellency. It is also true that the committee made what I may call a minority report. It was the report of probably the only person who was practically capable of expressing any opinion that was of any real value in guiding the Council in matters of this kind—that was the architect Mr. Ram.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—What about the Director of Public Works. Is he not to count?

The Hon. Sir HENRY BARKLEY—I am speaking from the public point of view, the point of view of those who are directly interested, the point of view of those who believe this legislation will affect the value of property in this colony, will seriously affect the investment of capital and will seriously affect transactions in property. Sir, I repeat the minority report

is one which I respectfully submit is the one which should guide this Council in its determinations. I would respectfully urge you to accept it. This is not an idea which I have just evolved. It was considered by the Government in 1903. It was fully discussed then and it was decided that from the point of view of safety of the buildings it would not be wise to adopt the scheme of pulling down every third house for a portion of its height. It was determined then that the only proper scheme if we could afford it was resumption en bloc, but that as often occurs here was prevented by lack of money. We could not do what we ought properly to do and then this suggestion was made by which we would attempt to do improperly that which if done at all should be done properly. The general public cannot afford it and the reasons which existed in 1903 which induced the Government not to proceed with the scheme exist to-day and the Government ought not to adopt the alternative suggestion now. As has been pointed out by the honourable member who represents the Chamber of Commerce the primary object of the scheme is to introduce sanitary improvement but it will not make a sanitary improvement if in pulling down every third house you create a sink between the remaining houses. As the honourable member has pointed out the result of this scheme would be to make a well between adjacent houses. In these houses it is proposed to insert windows. Out of these windows I venture to prophecy if the Bill is passed as it stands there will be projected all sorts of rubbish upon the building below. Sir, that is not sanitary improvement. Sir, it was only yesterday that I attended a meeting for the purpose of discussing this Bill with others. By chance one of us looked out of the window. There was, Sir, a courtyard, and in it a building with a flat roof, that was covered more or less with refuse thrown from windows of adjacent houses. This was not in the Chinese quarter but in Queen's Road Central. Therefore it seems that you will not altogether effect your object of sanitary reform by demolishing every third house. I do not think it can be regarded as a sanitary improvement. Then if you have a flat roof you will find it is bound to leak. I don't know whether the Director of Public Works can give me an instance of a flat roof that does not leak. On the other hand if you put up a pitch roof you are bound to have gutters between the adjacent houses becoming blocked. Now we come to the structural objection taken by Mr. Ram, that is that the result of this scheme will be to weaken the adjacent buildings. You must remember that the houses were built in a row and were never meant to stand alone. They all lean one against another. If you pull down every third house you will make that which was a party wall into an external wall and of course a party wall will not fulfil the purpose of an external wall, the result will be that in many cases you have to build up external walls. You weaken every third house. That is the primary objection. Then you come to the question raised by the honourable member who represents the Chamber of Commerce that this proposal entails a charge upon property. From the point of view of owners of property it will not be an improvement, and from the point of view of the Bill, if it passes, it will be an improvement. That improvement is to be a charge upon those who in the words of this section have had in the opinion of the Governor in Council their properties benefited by such works. I pause for a moment to say that that is rather vague. There is nothing to indicate what you mean by the owners of adjacent houses, whether those immediately adjacent or what? The knowledge of the uncertainty which this arrangement creates, the feeling of uneasiness which it will cause among owners of property and investors is also a serious objection. They will never know when at the will of the Governor in Council, moved by the Medical Officer of Health, a charge will not be made upon their property. This feeling of unrest will exist in the minds of those who have money to invest in mortgages and in house property. In this case I hope that the Government will not oppose this amendment because I take it that those who passed the resolution

recommending the present legislation included several who have since seen reason to change their opinion, with the possible exception of the Director of Public Works. Mr. Ram was always against it, I have much pleasure in seconding the amendment on three grounds. The first is that the proposed scheme will be non-effective, will not effect any sanitary improvement; the second is the great cost that it will entail, and the third is the liability to destroy the confidence of investors in property.

Hon. Mr. POLLOCK—Sir, Your Excellency has referred, as I gathered, to this particular section as the outcome of my resolution, but I desire to disclaim having been the originator of any such clause as that now before the Council. My suggestion was that if such a scheme as this were carried out—which I think from an ideal point of view must be admitted is a good scheme—the Government should bear a considerable part of the cost, and that a loan should be raised for that purpose. There is no doubt that considerable expense would be cast, as has been pointed out by the mover and seconder of the amendment, upon the owners of the adjoining houses in order to make their property structurally safe. The party wall will be weakened, especially if lateral windows are inserted in that wall, and I desire to say that this scheme as now drawn up is not a scheme such as I suggested. It does not include the financial provision which I proposed in the Council last year.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS—The remarks which have fallen from Sir Henry Berkeley are such as to give the impression that I vetoed this proposition when it came before the Council in 1903, by stating that the scheme would not be a safe one to adopt. I would state, Sir, that I made no such statement before the Council. The opposition to the scheme, came from a different quarter. I think, Sir, it is not necessary for me to follow the arguments brought against the scheme, but I quite recognise that in some cases it would be necessary to carry out some works to strengthen the walls if this scheme were carried out. Generally speaking, there would be many houses which would require no such additional strengthening.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—The hon. members who have supported the amendment have entirely left out of calculation the improvement to the remaining houses. The provision made in this Bill for allowing rooms that do not contain cubicles to be occupied in the proportion of one adult to every 30 square feet of floor space and 300 cubic feet of air space means that a far larger number of people can be accommodated in the improved houses. Calculations have been made and it can be shown that two houses will contain under this provision more people than in the old ones. It is not clear whether hon. members who have criticised this section have read it aright or they would have realised that the Government propose to bear by far the larger proportion of the cost, and that the entire cost of the resumption and demolition of the third house will fall upon the Government. It is only the cost of the works in rendering the remaining houses habitable, propping the walls and inserting windows, that will fall upon the owners. Sir, the Government pay the compensation and the owner obtains a vast improvement in his property, a small expense. A lurid picture has been drawn of the nuisance of flat roofs between the houses, but I would ask whether hon. members have seen some of the specimens of the houses which exist in the Colony? The Cubicle Committee, under my personal guidance, visited such houses and were very much impressed by them. The Government, Sir, thought that property owners, when they read that they had only to bear a very minor part of the cost of the works, instead of being charged with the cost of the resumption of every third house, would have been so anxious to obtain the benefits of this section that the section was amended by substituting the words "Medical Officer of Health" for "the Sanitary Board." The Board has an unofficial majority and that majority—I won't say it represents the property owners—has a very large element in sympathy with property owners. Sir, I frankly confess that I, for one, thought that if the initiative of the scheme was left to the Sanitary Board the Government would be deluged with applications for carrying out im-

provements under this section. It seemed to the Government so extremely favourable. I think, Sir that hon. members ought to further consider the section. I don't believe they realise that all the compensation falls on the Government and that only the cost of the minor works falls on the property owners. I don't believe they have calculated the enormous improvement to the property due to the increased number of inhabitants that the remaining houses will carry. I don't believe they have looked round the colony to see whether any venturesome person has had the braveness to build such improved houses. If they considered the improvement they might alter their views.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—If it were such a favourable scheme isn't it strange that none of the property owners have tried it on their own initiative? (Sir Henry Berkeley—Hear, hear.)

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—You are only providing the opportunity now by this Bill.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—If it were so favourable they should not need to wait. They would do it themselves.

HIS EXCELLENCY—Very often the various houses in a block are not under the same ownership. Where three houses belong to three different towners the Government must intervene.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—If the property was made more valuable you would imagine that people would do it for themselves.

HIS EXCELLENCY—Very possibly they will now that Government offers to bear the whole compensation for the demolished house.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—It brings an element of uncertainty into the title.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—Let me correct you. Until the amendment of section 46 of the Principal Ordinance becomes law the property owner has no inducement to pull down every third house. As the law stands a floor without cubicles does not gain any advantage over a floor with cubicles. Section 11 is inserted in order to induce people to adopt this scheme. Hitherto property owners have had no inducement.

Hon. Dr. HO KAI—This will assist the owners. The Government never promised to assist before.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—Do you not see any point in this argument as to the element of uncertainty? Is there no force in it?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—At the present moment you are liable to have your property resumed.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—In that case you know where you are.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—Under this scheme on due cause being shown you are liable to have a rotten property improved at the public expense and handed back to you a good property.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—Supposing there is a doubt as to the stability of the party walls?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—You must give credit to the Director of Public Works not to build a wall or leave a house so that the first typhoon will blow it down.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—Many houses have fallen down.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—None, Sir, that have been built by the Public Works Department. Many have been blown down, but these were not built by the Director of Public Works.

Hon. Sir HENRY BERKELEY—How does the Colonial Secretary account for the unanimous objection shown by property owners to the clause?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—My answer is that property owners have not understood it.

Hon. Sir HENRY BERKELEY—Speaking from—

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—I had the biggest property owner in the Colony in my office the other day. He had just come from a meeting where they had discussed this clause, yet he was ignorant of the fact, which I have been trying to make clear that the Government, and not the owners, are going to bear the cost of the resumption and compensation. He spoke against the clause but he showed he did not understand it. All I ask is that hon. members should sleep over this clause.

Hon. Sir HENRY BERKELEY—You mean postpone consideration until next meeting?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—Yes.

HIS EXCELLENCY—It is better to postpone it until next meeting.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY—I endorse what Your Excellency has said. The clause is very important, and it would be a pity if the scheme were jettisoned. Some compromise acceptable to all parties might be arrived at.

Consideration of the clause was accordingly deferred.

On clause 68,

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL moved a new section so as to make consent by the Governor in Council necessary to applications for water closets.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY said the reason for the amendment was that the Sanitary Board in defiance of the medical opinion consulted had decided to permit water closets in houses in Kowloon.

Carried.

Two sections in clause 51 providing that where the owner agreed to provide a scavenging lane without compensation the consent of the mortgagee or lessee was not needed were deleted.

HON. MR. SLADE expressed the opinion that where an owner wished to rebuild his property he should be able to get back his scavenging lanes, if he desired, at the price that had been paid to him as compensation.

THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS said there was nothing in the Ordinance to prevent an owner retaining possession of the scavenging lane on his property, in which case the Government would pay no compensation for it, but if the Government did resume the lane and pay for it he did not see why it should surrender the land at the price paid—the value might have either appreciated or depreciated.

The point was not pressed.

On clause 58,

HON. MR. STEWART moved to deduct from the 28 days' limit for the final return of plans by the Building Authority such time as was taken up through the plans being returned to the architects for amendment.

The amendment was allowed to stand over for further consideration.

On the amendment to clause 265 being reached.

HIS EXCELLENCY adjourned the Council until next Thursday.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held after the Council, the Colonial Secretary presiding. The following vote was passed:

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of six thousand Dollars (\$6,000) in aid of the vote, Public Works Extraordinary, Buildings, Land Office at Tai Po.

SUPREME COURT.

Monday, 1st June.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THE CHIEF JUSTICE
(SIR FRANCIS PIGGOTT)

CLAIM AGAINST THE RUSSO-CHINESE BANK.

Li Yau Sam v. the Russo-Chinese Bank. This was a special jury action in which the plaintiff claimed \$41,415 from the defendants, being money alleged to have been handed to defendants for transmission to Shanghai on behalf of the plaintiff. Mr. M. W. Slade, instructed by Mr. C. H. Beavis, appeared for the plaintiff, and Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., instructed by Mr. Gedge, of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master, appeared for the defendants.

The special jury was empanelled as follows: Messrs. D. W. Craddock (foreman), H. P. White, W. B. Walker, W. L. Carter, A. O'D. Gourdin, E. G. Barrett, C. H. Ross.

Mr. G. P. Lammert was called but exempted by agreement between both parties.

The statement of claim set forth that the plaintiff was a banker residing at Nanking and carried on business at 179, Des Vœux Road, under the style of Yee Sun Yuen Kee. On 3rd January, 1907, the plaintiff requested the defendants, who carry on a banking business at

Princes Buildings, Hongkong, to transmit the sum of taels 30,000 to Shanghai by telegraph and paid to the defendants \$40,961.30 being the amount demanded by them. They gave to the plaintiff a written acknowledgment of the receipt of the \$40,961.30 but the defendants did not transmit said sum or any part thereof to Shanghai, and on the 24th January 1907, plaintiff demanded repayment of the amount stated but defendants had not repaid the sum. The plaintiff therefore claimed \$40,961.30 and interest thereon from the 24th January 1907 at the rate of 8 per cent per annum until payment or judgment.

The defence was a denial of having been asked to transmit the money stated to Shanghai or having received the \$40,961.30.

Mr. Slade in opening said that the plaintiff carried on business in many places in China and he had a branch in Hongkong which was maintained almost entirely for the purpose of receiving and transmitting money for the active working branches in this part of China, such as Canton and Swatow. The business was a large one and there was transmitted to Shanghai chiefly by telegraphic transfer as much as three or four million taels a year. The practice of the firm was to obtain quotations from individual banks from day to day and to send by the bank which offered the cheapest rate. During the eighteen months prior to the transaction of 3rd January, 1907, the plaintiff transmitted over 80,000 taels through the defendant bank. Plaintiff's manager here having received the money would make inquiries from the various banks—of course dealing with the compradore—as to the rate of exchange. Mr. Slade then detailed how the manager used to interview the compradore of the defendant bank to ascertain the rate, and after it had been confirmed by the manager of the bank, obtain an offer in writing. At the time in question the same procedure was adopted as in the 30 or 40 previous transactions. Plaintiff's manager saw the compradore of the defendant bank and arranged for the transmission of taels 20,000 at the rate of 73½, the agreement being that he would bring the money to the bank next morning. On arrival at the bank next morning he arranged for an additional taels 10,000, but the rate quoted then was 73½. The compradore wrote on a slip of paper the amount, the rate of exchange, and the sum of \$41 deducted from the total, this being a return of part of his commission which the compradore was in the habit of giving to his Chinese customers. This was the practice of bank compradores, the commission allowed in this instance being \$1 per \$1,000. Having received the account, the manager went away and returned with the money, which he paid over and got his book chopped. He then telegraphed to Shanghai announcing that he had remitted the money, and he made the usual entries in his book. Three or four days afterwards he received a telegram from Shanghai complaining that the money had not been paid, and when he went round to the bank the compradore told him not to worry as such delays were not uncommon. Still the money was not paid and when he went to the bank again the compradore said the bank manager would write on the matter. There being no reply forthcoming, the manager placed the matter in the hands of a solicitor and when he wrote the Bank denied all knowledge of the matter. Shortly afterwards the compradore informed the plaintiff that he was sorry he had treated him badly, as he had temporarily used the money, and had been surprised by the solicitors' letter. When pressed, the bank denied liability and a letter written by the compradore was sent to the manager of the plaintiff firm in which the writer admitted appropriating the money with full intention of repaying, but tightness of money preventing him from doing so at present. He would however raise several thousands from his friends and give promissory notes for the balance. In flowery language he wrote of his not daring to show his face nor his eyes, and asking the plaintiff who belonged to a rich and noble family to consent to the arrangement which he proposed and lay up a store of good deeds. Plaintiff declined to have anything to do with this arrangement, and looked to the Bank for payment.

Evidence was called and the case adjourned.

Tuesday, 2nd June.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

CLAIM AGAINST THE RUSSO-CHINESE BANK.

The special jury action was continued in which Li Yau Sam claimed \$41,415 from the Russo-China Bank being money alleged to have been handed to defendants for transmission to Shanghai on behalf of the plaintiff. Mr. M. W. Slade, instructed by Mr. C. H. Beavis, appeared for the plaintiff, and Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., instructed by Mr. Gedge, of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master, appeared for the defendants.

The special jury was constituted as follows: Messrs. D. W. Craddock (foreman), H. P. White, W. B. Walker, W. L. Carter, A. O'D. Gourdin, E. G. Barrett, C. H. Ross.

There was no evidence called on behalf of the defence.

Mr. Pollock addressed the jury, contending that the Bank not having received the money was not liable. If a compradore could bind his employer or his firm by entering into a contract without consulting his employers it would be putting the compradore in the taipan's seat.

His Honour—You are putting it that there is a duty for him to go to the European head?

Mr. Pollock—If he wishes to make things absolutely safe he must do so.

Mr. Pollock submitted certain questions which he thought should be submitted to the jury, the chief of which was—Did the defendants' compradore receive the money from the plaintiff's agent and, if so, did he receive it for the benefit of the bank or for his own benefit?

Mr. Slade maintained that the money did go into the coffers of the bank. It was received by the person authorised to receive the money of the Bank. The questions he suggested were materially different to those of his friend. The first one was—Did the plaintiff's agent pay over to the bank the money stated for the purpose of its being transmitted to Shanghai? The second was also important—Did the plaintiff in making this payment follow the ordinary course of business between himself and the defendants?

His Lordship in summing up said this was a case with which he was sorry to say they were becoming too familiar. Two innocent parties come before the court: they have been defrauded by a scoundrel and both do their utmost to recover their money. His Lordship again criticised the compradore system. It was perfectly useful when the colony was founded to establish business relations with the Chinese. Certainly it was a very ingenious system but it had led to certain things happening. It led to a false security on the part of taipan and he had not the slightest doubt that the system wanted a thorough revision. The system induced a false security on the part of the taipan and he was perfectly well aware that the guarantee did not cover the whole of the liability. The system induced a certain recklessness on the part of the Chinese buyer who knew he had no European principal to deal with and it put enormous power for harm by fraud into the hands of one Chinaman. At the close of his address he submitted the following questions to the jury:

(1) Did the Bank in fact instruct the compradore to transact exchange business with Chinese customers in any other way than by receiving special authority in each case to do so?

(2) Was there such authority given in this case?

3—Did the Bank put the compradore in such a position that he could pretend to the plaintiff that he had the necessary authority to receive the money, and, if so, did the plaintiff believing he had that authority hand over the money to the compradore in that belief?

His Lordship continued that he assumed the jury would answer the first two questions in the negative, but if they answered the third in the affirmative then their verdict must be for plaintiff. If they answered it in the negative their verdict must be for defendant.

Mr. Pollock asked that it be put on record that he submitted five questions.

His Lordship—I intimated that would be so.

Mr. Pollock—And that Your Lordship refuses.

His Lordship—Yes.

Mr. Pollock—I would refer your Lordship to a part of a former judgment of your Lordship, in which you said "it is clear that where a frau-

dulent act has been done by an agent for his own benefit, the principal will not be liable.

His Lordship—I have referred to it.

Mr. Pollock—are the jury to be allowed to give a general verdict?

His Lordship—Yes.

Mr. Pollock—But you said the jury are to find certain facts. I say the jury have power to come to a general verdict.

Mr. Slade—Then I make formal application that you do, as your Lordship can do, require in addition to a general verdict for the plaintiff or defendant that specific questions put to them be answered. It is only to fill up my friend's application. We have both suggestions—

Mr. Pollock—Which his Lordship has not put.

Mr. Slade—He has rejected mine as well as yours.

His Lordship—I think there is perhaps a little misunderstanding. The way I put it is this. There are two facts—two questions which I asked the jury to answer and which answer I assumed to be in the negative. Then I put it to them that such and such being the case you must find for the plaintiff.

Mr. Pollock—I must submit that you Lordship's questions amount to misdirection.

Mr. Slade—This is not the time for that. You can take objection later on. It is interrupting the Court.

His Lordship then repeated the questions.

Mr. Pollock—Since remarks have been made by your Lordship as to the way in which my clients carry on their business I think I am entitled to say that I don't think your Lordship has dealt with the question of the enormous possibility of fraud between compradore and customer.

His Lordship explained that his remarks did not apply to the way in which the Bank did its business but were a criticism of the compradore system.

Mr. Pollock—I hope the jury will understand they are entitled to deliver a general verdict?

His Lordship—Yes.

After a lengthy absence the jury returned with a general verdict of 6 to 1 in favour of plaintiff.

Judgment was entered accordingly.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. H. H. J. GOMPERTZ (ACTING PUISNE JUDGE).

AN EMIGRATION CASE.

In the case in which Cheung Kwok Wan sued Chan Heung Yenk for \$700 money paid for services to be rendered which were not rendered, Mr. C. F. Dixon, of Messrs Hastings and Hastings appeared for the plaintiff, and Sir Henry Berkeley, K.C., instructed by Mr. G. H. Holmes, appeared for the defendant.

It was stated that the \$700 was paid to defendant on behalf of certain men who were guaranteed by him a safe landing in the United States. If they were not allowed to land the money was to be refunded. The men proceeded to Shanghai whence the voyage to America was to commence, but at that port the defendant's agent who had accompanied them thus far disappeared and they were unable to proceed.

Sir Henry Berkeley contended that a contract for the purpose of defrauding a foreign country was a contract founded on fraud and could not be upheld by the court.

Witnesses were called, and the hearing adjourned till next Tuesday.

Wednesday, 3rd June.

IN BANKRUPTCY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THE CHIEF JUSTICE (SIR F. PIGGOTT).

Re Kwong Hang Tai firm ex parte the Official Receiver.

The Official Receiver applied for the forfeiture of the sum of \$3,300 given as security for two debtors.

His Lordship—Security for the appearance of the debtors?

The Official Receiver—Yes, either before the Official Receiver or the Court.

His Lordship—Where are the men?

The Official Receiver—They are in the country, I believe.

It was agreed that notice should be given to the guarantors and the matter was adjourned for a fortnight.

A MERCHANT'S FAILURE.

Re Herbert Stephens. Application to close public examination.

The Official Receiver—Did you just before the bankruptcy receive \$200 from the Fook Wo?—Yes.

What was it for?—Two cases of India rubber shoes.

How long before the bankruptcy?—A few days.

What became of that money?—It was dealt with in the business in the usual way.

His Lordship—Entered in the books?—Yes.

At the time you received the money was the cargo here?—Yes.

Why didn't you give delivery to the Fook Wo?—It was a question of margin money.

Many of the dealers did not take delivery and we usually held what was called margin money.

Was there any other cargo belonging to Fook Wo?—I can't say.

Having paid this \$200 wasn't he entitled to have the cargo he bought?—Yes, sir.

In the case of Li Loong there was a case of \$105. Did you receive that money?—Yes.

Did you pay it into the business?—Yes.

And you did not give delivery of the goods ordered?—No sir.

They are still at the bank?—Yes, sir.

And in the case of the Toong Foong Tai did they pay \$290 for bedsteads just before the bankruptcy?—Yes.

Did you pay that money into the business?—Yes.

Did you give delivery of the goods?—No.

They are still at the bank?—Yes.

His Lordship—Were these goods invoiced?

The Official Receiver—They were indented to these people.

His Lordship—And they have received the goods?

The Official Receiver—The bills must be paid before the Bank will let the goods go.

The Official Receiver—Why didn't you give delivery in this case when you were paid for them?

Debtor—We had calls from the bank and the money was used for other purposes.

The Official Receiver—As a matter of fact you used the money for other purposes in the ordinary course of business?—Yes.

The Official Receiver—I will ask your Lordship to close the public examination. The debtor is intending to apply for his discharge and any further questions will come up then.

The examination was closed.

Thursday, 4th June.

IN APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THE FULL COURT.

THE MURDER TRIAL.

The legal points raised by the Hon. Dr. Ho Kai in the defence of the three men who were found guilty by the jury last week of the triple murder near Shatin in December 1906 were argued before the Chief Justice (Sir F. Piggott) and Mr. H. H. J. Gompertz, Acting Puisne Judge. The Hon. Dr. Ho Kai (instructed by Mr. G. K. Hall Brutton) and accompanied by Mr. M. W. Slade, appeared for the prisoners, and the Hon. Mr. Rees Davies (Attorney General) appeared for the Crown.

Mr. Slade stated that this was the hearing of a motion for arrest of judgment on the ground that evidence duly objected to had been improperly admitted in the course of the trial. The evidence to which objection was taken was given by Sergt. Wilden.

The Attorney-General—The objection was taken from the Bench.

His Lordship—It was simultaneous as a matter of fact.

Mr. Slade read the evidence objected to, which related the finding of the watch in the first prisoner's house. His Lordship objected to the evidence but had allowed it to go in order that it might be argued on a motion for arrest of judgment. It was clear that Sergt. Wilden gave no caution of any kind to the prisoner prior to asking him questions or searching the premises, and the sergeant was undoubtedly guilty of an illegal act.

Mr. Justice Gompertz—In making the arrest or for entering the premises?

Mr. Slade—For searching and taking the watch without any authority. I think he could be safely indicted for burglary. No man has a right to enter a man's house and take property away in this way.

The Attorney-General—We are not trying burglary now.

The Chief Justice—It is absolutely pertinent.

Mr. Slade—A constable has a right without warrant to arrest a man whom he knows has committed a crime or whom he has a strong reason to believe has committed a crime. If he sees a crime committed he can pursue the offender on to private property but beyond that his authority does not go. If he has an authority to enter a man's house he may do so; otherwise he may not. This evidence having been obtained in the manner indicated the question for the court is whether the whole evidence can be received, it having been illegally obtained. Mr. Slade went on to trace how confessions were at one time forced from prisoners and afterwards used against them, arguing that the law at present held that confessions before being admitted must be free and voluntary. On the broad ground of the illegality of the manner in which the evidence was obtained he submitted that the whole of the evidence ought to be rejected.

The Chief Justice said the illegality of entering the house had not occurred to him. He had treated the matter as to the illegality of the confession.

The Puisne Judge—You have two points?

Mr. Slade—Yes. The first is the illegality of the whole evidence and the second is the illegality of entering the house.

The Attorney-General contended that the evidence as it appeared was clearly admissible. There was no confession.

The Chief Justice remarked that confession was a general term which covered statements and confessions.

The Attorney-General differed with great submission and drew a distinction between admission and confessions. He proceeded to argue that the finding of the box was evidence irrespective of any statement made and then went on to argue that the statement as it appeared was admissible.

The argument was adjourned till Tuesday.

KULANESU (AMOY) MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

Minutes of a meeting of the Council, held at the Board Room, on the 19th May 1908.

Present:—Messrs. W. H. Wallace (Chairman), C. A. V. Bowra, Huang Ts'an-chew, W. Kruss, S. Okuyama, W. Wilson and the Secretary.

1. The minutes of the last meeting are read and confirmed.

2. A petition is read from the following Dairy Farmers:—Kulangsu Milk and Produce Company, Hap Soon, Eng Hap, Choat Hoat, Goan Hoat, and Hap Kee, requesting that the hours for allowing cattle and buffaloes being out for grazing be altered to "not before 5.30 a.m. and not later than 7.30 p.m." instead of as at present "not before 8 a.m. or after, p.m." The application is refused.

3. The Secretary is directed to forward to the Senior Consul, for the approval of the Consular Body, a proclamation by which half the Opium Shops will be closed on the 31st March 1909, and the remaining half on the 31st March 1910.

4. The Superintendent of Police reports the following cases have been dealt with at the Mixed Court since the last meeting:—

SUMMONSES.

Allowing pigs and cattle to stray 7, Throwing rubbish, &c. into the public drains 6, Obstructing the public drains 4, Assault 1, Damaging property 1, Debt 2, Contempt of Court 2. Obtaining goods under false pretences 1.

SUMMARY ARRESTS.

Being a rogue and a vagabond &c. 2, Failing to obey an order of the Mixed Court.

(Signed) W. H. WALLACE,
Chairman.

By Order

C. BERKELEY MITCHELL,
Secretary.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE OPIUM QUESTION.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE DAILY PRESS.]

DEAR SIR,—It is abundantly manifest from what transpired at the meeting of the Legislative Council yesterday (28th instant) and from the articles and correspondence published during the past three weeks in the local papers that objection to the suppression of the opium trade in the Colony is based chiefly upon the difficulty that would be experienced, in the event of our opium revenue being lost, in raising sufficient revenue to meet the present requirements of the administration plus funds for the construction of much needed additional typhoon refuge for shipping and to meet the expenditure deemed requisite in connection with some other important public works.

A great deal has, as I have just intimated, been said and written on the subject but unfortunately we don't seem to be any nearer a solution of the financial difficulty than we were when the discussion first commenced, although we are undoubtedly faced—as things stand at present—with a problem of great magnitude which cannot, I submit, be solved one moment too soon. This being the view which I in common with many other residents of various nationalities take of the situation I crave the favour of space in your columns for publication of a suggestion which I make bold to hope may prove helpful in at least minimising the effects of the blow from the sword of Damocles which, it would seem, is hanging over our heads.

My suggestion has direct reference to the Military Contribution, or "Military Mulet". It has been stated—and truly stated—that under present circumstances the problem of financing the colony will be most difficult to solve if we are to lose the revenue at present derived from opium amounting to fully \$1,500,000 unless retrenchment or increased taxation be resorted to. It is generally recognised that the Colony cannot well bear any further taxation and that were the public called upon to make good the loss of opium revenue the results would assuredly prove most disastrous. What then are we to do in face of the decision of the Imperial Authorities to close the opium divans and gradually, if not rapidly, render the opium traffic as extinct as the Dodo? In what direction can we best look for relief? Assuredly in the direction of the Military Contribution, a heavy burden which it has been especially difficult to bear during the past few lean years.

The Military Contribution, amounting this year to 17½ per cent. of the revenue, is unquestionably a very heavy burden to the Colony, while as regards the Imperial Authorities to whom it is paid it of course appears as a mere drop in a vast ocean. Attempts have been frequently made to induce the Imperial Authorities to relieve us of the burden but hitherto without avail, presumably because we were unable to make out a sufficiently strong case against it. Now, however, the position is very different from what it has ever been before and the alteration has been created, not by any act on our part but by a decision of the Imperial Authorities based upon the policy of the British Cabinet which has seen fit to extend a helping hand to China in her efforts to eradicate the opium habit.

Assuming the Chinese Government is not only in earnest but is possessed of the requisite power to enforce obedience of the Imperial Anti Opium Decrees throughout the length and breadth of the neighbouring Empire, I incline to the opinion that the policy is wise, for Hongkong depends chiefly for its prosperity upon what is styled the foreign trade with China—the transit trade—and the good will, the friendship, the trade to be done with the 400,000,000 of shrewd, industrious, thrifty and enterprising inhabitants of Far Cathay is unquestionably a matter of the highest importance to what Napoleon was pleased to style a "nation of shopkeepers." But I am digressing and may be am indulging in reasoning which will not meet with general acceptance, though I confess to entire inability to perceive in the action of the British Government any other motive than the seizing of

what was deemed to be a golden opportunity to cement our friendship with China with a view to the development of trade and friendly intercourse with an awakening Empire.

To return, then, to the main question at issue the solution of a serious difficulty created by the Imperial Authorities. In view of the fact that the Home Government has decided upon a policy which will soon result in a loss to us of upwards of a million dollars per annum how are we to make two ends meet in these hard times unless we place Justice before Generosity? "Generosity!" you exclaim. "Where does any question of Generosity come in?" It is, I submit, not only as clear as daylight but is inextricably involved in the decree of the Imperial Authorities compelling us for years past to contribute a large percentage of our revenue to the Imperial Exchequer. The sum paid to the Imperial Authorities annually is officially styled a contribution. It is Tribute pure and simple. It is supposed, or alleged, to be due from us for military protection—although we of course look to the Navy as our right arm of defence—and inasmuch as tribute is "money paid by a conquered tribe or nation to gain peace or protection" this so-called contribution is de facto tribute—it is due from us—so we have been given to understand—to assist in defraying the expense incurred in insuring to the inhabitants of the Colony peace and protection. When business was flourishing, when all was going well with us we murmured not about the Military Contribution, but since our urgent needs increased and plague wrought havoc with our trade in various ways many and loud have been the protestations against compulsion to pay in rates and taxes a great deal more than was requisite to meet the needs of the local administration. Few, if any, could perceive the smallest justification for compelling the inhabitants of Hongkong to raise a large surplus revenue in order that the surplus might be remitted to the wealthiest government in the world.

The percentage of revenue allocated to the payment of the Military Contribution is surplus—it is money wrung from the ratepayers in excess of what is needed by the local authorities to keep the machinery of government in motion, provide for necessary public works and so forth. The colonists are subjected to more taxation than is necessary, and this is due, as I have just pointed out, to the demand of the Imperial Authorities that we shall annually pay a large sum of money designated a Military Contribution.

I trust I have now made it sufficiently clear that the money paid over annually by this Colony to the Imperial Authorities is obtained by taxing the inhabitants more than there is any necessity for, the military contribution being in fact surplus revenue. It is not expended on the Colony, and that the Imperial Authorities would not be inconvenienced were we to fail to pay up the tribute is as certain as that Hongkong would be retained as a British military and naval station were there not a single merchant or trader in the place. It was occupied as an outpost of our great world-wide Empire and such it will of course always remain.

We have now seen that the Colony is faced with a grave difficulty; that this is recognised by all classes and people of all creeds; that the policy of the Imperial Government has been adversely criticised, and that the large sum paid out of our revenue as a Military Contribution represents so much surplus of the Colony's income. Let us now pass on to consideration of ways and means of solving the problem which is at present uppermost in the minds of most ratepayers—How are we to make good the loss of the opium revenue? Condensed in the proverbial nut-shell, my reply is "Justice before Generosity." Let me explain. It being admitted that we are to lose \$1,500,000 opium revenue; that we contribute to the Imperial Exchequer \$1,250,000 as a Military Contribution, and that we are already taxed up to the hilt, it stands to reason that the best way out of the difficulty is to cease to be generous enough to contribute to the Imperial Government in order that full Justice may be done to ourselves. In other words, an appeal for Justice must be made through the proper channel and in a manner best suited to the occasion.

In this connection I would suggest that some of our leading citizens—who will, I trust, accept my proposal in the spirit in which it is tendered—should organize a public meeting to be held in the City Hall at which every section of the community should be represented, so that action taken at the meeting would in fact be a movement made by the whole body of ratepayers. A Chairman should be elected in the Hall in the usual way. The object of the meeting should then be briefly explained and the Chairman should go on to suggest that the proceedings should be limited to the election of a Committee, which would be representative of each section of our large cosmopolitan community, the duty of the Committee being the engagement of some member or members of the legal profession to draw up a Memorial to the Secretary of State setting forth clearly the financial position of the Colony, proving our inability to continue contributing to the Imperial Treasury, and appealing for Justice pure and simple.

The Memorial would of course be signed by hundreds of firms and individuals and be forwarded to London through the good offices of His Excellency the Governor.

I am a firm believer in British Justice and in the love of all Britons for Justice, and I refuse to believe that were the British Government approached by the people through the good offices of the people's chosen representatives a deaf ear would be turned to the plea for fair play. The Imperial Authorities which imposed the Military Contribution upon us have the power to withdraw it, and it would in my humble opinion be an impertinence to assume that action of the kind indicated would amount only to crying in the wilderness.

It must be borne in mind that the Imperial Authorities are endeavouring to do what they believe to be good not only for China but for the British Empire as a whole, and it may therefore, I think, be safely taken for granted that as soon as the Premier and his distinguished colleagues realize that their fiat re the opium trade is, under present conditions, calculated to entail great hardship to the public and no little embarrassment to the local authorities, they will accept the situation as they find it and cease to exact from Hongkong a contribution which it can no longer afford.

The foregoing is just an outline of my ideas on a subject which I gather from Dr. Ho Kai's and other speeches delivered at the Council meeting yesterday is exercising the minds of the general public of Hongkong to a very considerable extent. I have not time to elaborate a scheme and must therefore leave it as it stands trusting to you, Sir, and to others who have the welfare of the colony at heart to go further into the matter if the suggestions which I have ventured to submit are deemed worthy of careful consideration.

Yours faithfully,
G. A. WATKINS

Hongkong, 29 May, 1908.

THE IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT AND THE COLONY'S REVENUES.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS".]

SIR,—Every ratepayer in the Colony, I feel sure, would be ready to attach his signature to the memorial suggested by Mr. G. A. Watkins praying the Imperial Parliament to relieve the Colony of the burdensome impost of a Military contribution estimated for the current year to amount to \$1,231,000 by way of compensating the Colony for the loss of revenue from the lease of the opium monopoly. Whether the Imperial Government will be as prompt to compensate as they are to deprive is very much open to doubt. Still, if I am not mistaken a promise of compensation was made to India, and, if that be so, there can be no sound reason for denying compensation to the colony of Hongkong.

Until the mail arrives with a full explanation of the telegram sent by the Secretary of State to the Governor nothing can be usefully added to what has already been said on the subject. Many have hastily jumped to the conclusion that the instructions received from the Imperial Government amount to a sacrifice of the total sum the Colony receives from the opium monopoly (which figures in this year's Estimates

at \$1,421,000). Personally I cannot see that such a heavy sacrifice is involved. Merely to close the public opium-smoking places will not, I imagine, in the long run, compel the opium farmer to shut up shop entirely. The closing of these places will not suppress opium smoking, and I question whether the opium farmer would find his income very materially reduced. Closing the licensed houses simply means making opium smoking in the homes of the people much more common than it is now. The Hongkong Government are no more able to suppress opium smoking than the Japanese Government have been able to suppress it in Formosa. Japan recognised when she annexed Formosa that the instant total suppression of opium-smoking meant sentence of death to hundreds, and the Government humanely decided on restrictive measures which involved the licensing of individual smokers. Incidentally, it is instructive to note that despite the efforts the Japanese Government has made in Formosa to restrict the consumption of the drug the import is now greater than ever. The latest official statistics I have are for 1906 in which year the import of opium into Formosa was valued at Yen 3,371,759, as compared with Yen 1,570,347 in 1897, the first year of the Japanese regime.

That is not very encouraging evidence for the reformer, but it gives some support to my suggestion that the opium farmer may not after all find any very considerable diminution in his returns after the licensed houses are closed.—Yours faithfully,

OMEGA.

BARKING NUISANCE.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."]

Hongkong, 1st June.

SIR,—During the summer months, the Murray Parade Ground is the scene of a regular pandemonium of dogs. In the daytime, batches of them can be seen creating a disturbance, which, added to the general bustle of rickshaws, electric trams, coolies, etc., has a nerve-jarring effect on the public. However, this is not of much consequence, being a mere drop in the hubbub and commotion of a city like Hongkong. But when it comes to night-time also being included in the category of the daily meetings of the canine community of Hongkong, it gives one pause to think, and devise some means of getting rid of these nocturnal pests. Just when one is enjoying a hard-earned sleep, one is rudely roused from the land of dreams by a series of loud barking, which, by the determined way in which the brutes seem to keep it up, beats everything, not even barring a deranged gramophone. It is then that one feels a strong inclination to hurl boots, tin-cans, bottles, in fact anything handy, at the heads of the noisy brutes. It is a crying shame that such a wretched state of affairs should be allowed to exist. Perhaps, at first sight, it seems impossible to remedy matters, but after all, it is very simple. Those who have the good fortune to possess dogs, or rather, the misfortune (since they do not know how to keep them in check) should take the precaution of having them chained up for the night, or employ any other means by which access to the Parade Ground might be effectively prevented at unearthly hours of the night. Otherwise, an air gun and a few slugs will help to impress upon the animals the inadvisability of creating their devilish barking at a time when Hongkong is supposed to be asleep.

Yours, etc.,
DISTRACTED.

CHINESE ON BRITISH SHIPS.

UNFEASIBLE INSTRUCTIONS.

The following correspondence has been sent to us for publication:—

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Hongkong, 21st May, 1908.

SIR,—I am directed to inform you that the Imperial Merchant Shipping Act 1906 contains a provision that seamen may not be engaged on board British ships unless they possess a sufficient knowledge of English to understand the necessary orders that may be given to

them in the performance of their duties. The provision does not, however, apply to British subjects.

In a draft bill to amend the local Merchant Shipping Ordinance this provision has been omitted because in the view of this Government its inclusion would seriously affect the Coasting and River trade of this port, where 98 per cent of the seamen shipped are Chinese.

The Bill referred to has been sent to England for the consideration of the Board of Trade, and an enquiry has now been received as to whether local regulations can be imposed to ensure that Chinese seamen belonging to Hongkong would be able to produce certificates or other official documents showing their birth-place, and entitling them to the exemption accorded to British subjects.

To this question, to which a reply has been asked by telegram, His Excellency has stated that, in his opinion, such a regulation is not feasible here, and I am to enquire whether your Committee concurs in that view.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,
(Sgd.) F. H. MAY,
Colonial Secretary.The Secretary,
The General Chamber of Commerce.Chamber of Commerce,
28th May, 1908.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 21st instant (No. 3173/1908) in which you refer to a provision in the Imperial Merchant Shipping Act 1906 against the employment of seamen on British Ships unless they possess a sufficient knowledge of English to understand the necessary orders and further, in which you point out the non-application of this proposed regulation to British subjects.

In the opinion of my Committee the inclusion of such a clause in the local Merchant Shipping Ordinance, and its enforcement, would practically compel the fleet of British Coasting Vessels engaged in the China trade to go out of Commission, for seamen and firemen with the qualification required are unobtainable, and the proof of British citizenship necessary to obtain exemption from the test cannot be given, for the very good reason that probably ninety-nine out of every hundred men so employed are the subjects of the Emperor of China.

I am directed to inform you that "No. 1" Chinese who do speak sufficient English are in charge of the natives working in every department on steamers carrying Chinese crews, and these men are the medium for conveying orders by the British Officers to the sailors, firemen, &c.

My Committee, cannot too strongly support the opinion and endorse the action taken in the matter by His Excellency as stated in the last paragraph of your letter.

I am to ask you to convey to His Excellency the Governor, the thanks of my Committee for affording them an opportunity of expressing their views on this very important subject.

I have, &c.,
(Sgd.) E. A. M. WILLIAMS,
Secretary.HONGKONG-SINGAPORE
QUARANTINE REGULATIONS.

Following was the reply to the letter from Government that was published in the last Minutes of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce:—

Hongkong, 30th May.

SIR,—My Committee have now carefully considered your letter of 7th instant (No. 864/1908), acknowledged on the 11th instant, on the subject of a possible modification of the restrictions imposed by the Quarantine Regulations of the Government of the Straits Settlements upon steamers arriving there from this Port, and I am directed to reply as follows:—

The two firms having the greatest interest in the Chinese passenger traffic between this port and the Straits Settlements are Messrs. Jardine Matheson & Co., Ltd., and Messrs. David Sassoon & Co., Ltd.

From these firms my Committee sought an opinion on the subject to enable them to place before the Government the views of those most directly interested.

The opinion shared by both these firms is that the suggestion to vaccinate Chinese emigrants and Asiatic crews is quite impracticable, and to insist upon such a course would probably do considerable harm to the passenger trade to the Straits Settlements.

They therefore do not see their way to adopt the precautions recommended.

In the opinion of my Committee it may be taken that the views of all the shipping firms engaged in the Asiatic passenger traffic between this port and the Straits Settlements would coincide with those expressed by the aforementioned firms.

I am directed to add that my Committee desire to thank His Excellency for referring the matter to them for consideration.—I have the honour to be, &c.,

(Sgd.) E. A. M. WILLIAMS,
Secretary.Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G.,
Colonial Secretary.

TIENTSIN.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

May 19th.

SIR ROBERT HART'S SUCCESSOR.

It has already been stated that Sir Robert Bredon, K.C.M.G., has become Acting Inspector-General, Imperial Maritime Customs, during the absence on home leave of Sir Robert Hart, and it may now be said that, if it should happen that Sir Robert Hart does not return to Peking, his brother-in-law's permanent succession to the headship of the I.M.C. is practically a foregone conclusion, notwithstanding the somewhat petty and certainly interested hostility to his candidature in some quarters both in China and in England.

Some particulars, therefore, of Sir Robert Bredon's career may be useful in helping towards a conception of the character of the new Inspector-General.

BRILLIANT COLLEGE CAREER.

Sir Robert Bredon, who has been Deputy I.G. since 1898, was born at Portadown, Ireland, on February 4th 1848, being the eldest son of the late Alexander Bredon, M.D., and Katherine, daughter of the late Joseph Bredon, R.N., Stanstead Canada. Educated at the Royal School, Dungannon, and Trinity College, Dublin, graduating with honours in both classics and mathematics, he passed (taking first place) for the Army Medical Staff in 1867, and passed (first place) out of Netley the same year.

At the University he had worked so hard and so brilliantly that he was rather taken up by professors and others, and was looked upon as a coming man—possibly as a professor himself.

JOINS THE ARMY.

But for family and personal reasons things were ordered differently, and he joined the Army Medical Service, being then just 21 and the youngest man in the service. He took his degrees in medicine and surgery soon after he was 20. Never, moreover, did he get lower than second place—and that only once—in any of his professional competitive examinations.

This gave him a sort of claim for choice of appointment, and he asked for a regiment at home, and was promptly given the 97th—then, as now, one of the smart regiments of the service. By an odd coincidence in view of Sir Robert's later career, they were known as the Celestials, from their sky blue facings.

A LITERARY PROTOTYPE.

Sir Robert Bredon, it is of interest to note, is one of the successors of Dickens's famous Dr. Slammer, who was regimental surgeon of the 97th at Chatham. In fact Sir Robert is Dr. Slammer's last and only surviving successor, for regimental surgeons were abolished in 1873, and the 97th was obliterated in 1882, and became the West Kent.

Sir Robert served all his time in the Army in the very battalion of the West Kents that was in North China up to 1906 and is now in Singapore.

Talking of Dr. Slammer, one may wonder whether Sir Robert will be the last Inspector General as he was the last 97th surgeon and will the I.M.C. be metamorphosed into something else when Sir Robert goes, as the 97th was?

APPRECIATION OF HIS SERVICES.

Sir Robert Bredon was made C.M.G. in 1903 and K.C.M.G. in 1904. He was given the 2nd Division 2nd Class of the Order of the Double Dragon by the Chinese Government, and holds the following decorations from other sovereigns and Governments:—Officer, Legion of Honour, France; Commander, Order of St. Olaf, Norway; 2nd Class of the Order of the Sacred Treasure, Japan; and 2nd Class of the Order of the Crown of Prussia with Star.

We have previously noted the honour done to Sir Robert Hart by the Chinese Government in giving him the rank of President of a Metropolitan Board. To Sir Robert Bredon on assuming his new position they have given the rank of Provincial Treasurer, which is sometimes translated Lieutenant-Governor. This is the rank which Sir Robert Hart, the Inspector-General, held up to a few years ago, when he began to run far ahead of ordinary Customs work. This rank given to Sir Robert Bredon at the present juncture is a significant honour, on which his friends, foreign and Chinese alike—and they are legion—will warmly congratulate him.

The local native press and the Chinese papers of Shanghai "continue to devote space to the Inspectorate-General, I.M.C., and to the personality of Sir Robert Hart. One paper mentions a well known man in Peking who is applying with all his might for the vacant post of the I. M. C. Inspectorate-General. "No name is given, but he is described as an English subject. Another paper publishes a long article on "Sir Robert Hart's Past Life in China," pointing out what are described as his "merits and mistakes."

It is to be noted that the Chinese in authority who are concerned in Customs affairs are thoroughly satisfied with both Sir Robert Hart and Sir Robert Bredon. It is the foreigners, both inside and outside the Customs service, who are so keenly discussing the alleged desirability of having a fresh I.G. At a recent river picnic here, for instance, the name of Lord Curzon, of all people in the world, was on the lips of everybody in a crowd representative of the shipping and mercantile interests of Tientsin! Others, again, pretend that Mr. Hippisley's name is one to conjure with in connexion with the final disposal of the Inspector-Generalship. It is somewhat astonishing to find many British subjects—some connected and others not connected with the Customs, arguing for the succession of some other man than Sir Robert Bredon, who is alleged to be too pro-Chinese, as if this were a crime. This is the basis of the spoken complaints of the Shanghai and China Association cliques. What these people want, apparently, is someone who is not pro-Chinese, but pro-foreign. It is not very wise of them to show their hand so openly.

This raises the question, What can an Inspector General or a Commissioner or other high official in the I. M. C. do in pushing the interests of his own nationals? Any man will of course have more sympathy for his own nationals than for those of any other flag, but as regards his official action what can he do? Sir Robert Hart has so organised and arranged the cosmopolitan nature of the Customs staff at each port that favouritism is an impossibility; and besides that the most favoured nation clause in all the Treaties secures for every Power its own full share in whatever is got by or done for any other Power.

All this leaves out of account what Sir Robert Bredon is likely to do during the time Sir Robert Hart is away on leave. Many may have a surprise in store. Sir Robert Bredon is now for the first time No. 1, and it remains to be seen whether he will justify or refute the charges and insinuations of his enemies. We shall see what we shall see.

May 18th.

H. E. Baron Hayashi, who left Peking for Tokyo on Friday, embarked from Tientsin yesterday, having spent the interval in being

feted by the Japanese Community here. Baron Hayashi has not settled all the questions that have arisen between China and Japan, but he has been a strong Minister, and well deserves his promotion from being Minister to Ambassador. After being employed, on his arrival in the Japanese capital, for some time at the Foreign Office, he will be sent to a European Embassy. In South China both his past and his future career should be regarded with special interest, for he is the man more than any other who is responsible, for good or for evil, for the "Tatsu Maru" settlement. He is a very clear-headed, resolute, well-informed, and able diplomatist. More about him anon.

Referring to the appointment of Mr. C. L. Chow, director of the Imperial Railway of North China, to be Customs Taotai of Newchwang, this Hongkong born Chinese Official is for the present, at all events to run the two posts concurrently. There is much satisfaction locally that Taotai Chow will not leave the railway, in the direction of which he has shown much ability and gained great popularity. Previously Taotai Chow was equally successful as director of the China Merchants Steam Navigation Co. His occupancy of the Newchwang Customs Taotai ship will probably not be a long one, for it is generally regarded as merely the first rung in the official ladder up which Taotai Chow is destined to climb to a very considerable height, he being one of the cleverest of the constallation of satellites with whom H. E. Yuan Shih-kai has surrounded himself.

RETIREMENT OF CONSUL-GENERAL MANSFIELD.

Mr. R. W. Mansfield, C.M.G., who during the last two or three years has been British Consul-General at Canton, is retiring on a pension after a long and honourable connection with the British Consular service in China extending over thirty-eight years. Mr. Mansfield left for Home on June 3rd via Hankow, Peking and Siberia.

He began his career in 1870 when, after passing a competitive examination, he was appointed a student interpreter in the Consular service in China. His first appointment as Acting Consul was to Foochow in 1875. He was then but a third-class assistant. His Acting Consulship lasted only a month, but he remained at Foochow for three years as Acting Interpreter. In 1878 he was promoted to be a second-class assistant and became Acting Vice-Consul at Pagoda Island. While there he was promoted to be a first-class assistant, and in 1886 he was transferred to Swatow as Acting Consul. In 1888 he was Acting Consul at Wuhu and left there in December of that year to fill a similar position at Chinkiang. Towards the end of 1890 he was appointed Senior Vice-Consul at Shanghai. He was promoted to be Consul at Chungking in 1891, but did not proceed there. He remained on at Shanghai for six months as Acting Assistant Judge and Consul. Then came his transference to Wenchow and afterwards to Foochow again as Acting Consul. In August 1895 Mr. Mansfield proceeded to Ktien to enquire into the murder of missionaries near that place and the following year he was transferred to Wuhu. He remained there little more than a year, when he once more became Acting Assistant Judge and Consul at Shanghai for seven months. Four months later he was Acting Consul-General at Shanghai for a month. Then came his transfer as Acting Consul at Canton from June 4th, 1898 to August 10th, 1899. From there he went to Amoy and in 1902 (the year he was made a C.M.G.), he again went to Shanghai as Acting Consul-General. Once more he went back to Amoy in 1905 and in 1906 was transferred to Canton where he has finished up his career at the age of fifty-eight.

In Mr. Mansfield the Consular service loses a valuable officer who has won the respect and esteem of his nationals wherever he has been stationed, and he leaves China with the sincere good wishes of troops of friends that he may long be spared to enjoy at Home the repose his long and faithful service of British interests in China has richly earned.

COMPANIES.

A. S. WATSON AND COMPANY LIMITED.

The annual meeting of shareholders in A. S. Watson and Company, Ltd, was held on May 30th at the offices, Alexandra Buildings. Mr. H. Humphreys presided and there were also present Sir Paul Chater, Messrs J. Scott Harston, H. P. White, J. A. Jupp (directors), L. Guy, W. T. Puddappa G. Rapp, Machado, D. E. Clark, E. C. Lane, and J. Tarrant (secretary).

The SECRETARY having read the notice convening the meeting,

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen. The report and statement of accounts having been in your hands for some days, I will, with your permission, take them as read. The result of this year's working does not, I regret to say, compare favourably with recent years. We have not only had to contend with general depression of trade, but increased competition in several departments of the business. The falling off has been particularly noticeable in Shanghai, Tientsin and Manila, where our returns were further adversely affected by change of premises, or alterations thereto. In Shanghai (Hongkew branch) and also in Tientsin, these changes were unavoidable owing to the expiration of our leases and the owners deciding to pull down and rebuild our premises, necessitating our going into temporary quarters elsewhere. With regard to Manila I mentioned in my speech at the last annual meeting that the building improvements there were not yet completed, and that there would be a further addition under this heading during 1907. Owing to the stagnant condition of trade in the Philippines, the extra revenue which we expected to obtain from increased sublettings has not so far come up to our expectations; consequently it may take a little longer than I anticipated to completely write off the whole of this expenditure. Though all these changes should eventually prove of great benefit they have as they were bound to do, caused temporary dislocation of business and a decreased turnover. The loss on subsidiary coins for the year amounts to \$16,508.56. Turning to the accounts the item "Building Improvements" shows an addition during 1907 of \$34,040.83, mainly on account of Manila, as above mentioned. The increase in aerated water machinery and plant amounting to \$19,948.81 has been mostly incurred in Manila and Shanghai. Your General Managers, with the approval of the Consulting Committee, decided nearly a year ago to take steps with a view to closing the Foochow Branch. In this course they were influenced as much by the decline of Foochow as a centre for trade, as by the working results of the branch, which had been unsatisfactory for many years. The doors of the branch were closed to business on the 28th February last, and the final stages of its liquidation proceeded with. I am glad to be able to state that there will be little or no loss to the Company through the closing of this branch. Before moving the adoption of the report and statement of accounts, I shall be pleased to answer any questions.

There being no questions,

The report was adopted on the motion of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr. MACHADO.

Mr. JUPP proposed, and Mr. CLARK, seconded, that Messrs. F. Maitland and W. Hutton Potts be re-elected auditors. Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—That concludes the business of the meeting, Gentlemen. Dividend warrants will be ready on Monday. Thank you for your attendance.

* WATKINS LIMITED.

The ninth ordinary annual meeting of shareholders in Watkins Ltd, was held at the company's office, Watkins' Building, on May 30th. Mr. G. Watkins presided and there were also present Messrs. A. R. Lowe, Chan A. Fook, John Lemm, Chow Hon Wah, Chun Yut Kai, and others.

The notice convening the meeting having been read,

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen,—We now present to you our report and accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1907, printed copies of which have been circulated and which I hope will be found satisfactory by shareholders. As we anticipated at the annual meeting last year, our mortgage account has been entirely wiped out, and your property known as "Watkins Buildings" paid for in full. In the accounts there is nothing I think that requires explanation. Our assets, you will notice, have been written down to a very low figure and your reserves increased. As to the present year's prospects, I can only say that so far we have no reason to feel pessimistic. The continuation of the declared policy of your General Managers to use all profits to reduce floating liabilities, and build up working capital, has again prevented the payment of dividends which otherwise they would have been justified in dividing. If any shareholder has any questions to ask, I shall be pleased to answer them to the best of my ability.

There being no questions,

The CHAIRMAN continued—And now, Gentlemen, I have the pleasure to move the first Resolution: "That the report now presented together with the balance sheet and profit and loss accounts be approved and adopted." I shall feel obliged if any shareholder present will second the resolution now before the meeting.

Mr. CHOW HON WAH seconded, and the resolution was carried.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

WHERE IGNORANCE IS BLISS.

At the Police Court on May 20th a boy in the employ of H. Ruttonjee and Sen was charged with the theft of a quantity of provisions from the shop in D'Aguilar Street and a compradore who owned a shop at 5 Chinese Street was also charged with receiving the same knowing them to have been stolen.

It appears that on Saturday last Mr. Ruttonjee, senior, discovered in the commode in the bathroom a quantity of butter. Father and son made arrangements to watch the culprit. Detective Inspector Hanson was called in and on the following day two pounds of butter were marked with a small R. Afterwards one pound of butter and two bottles of sauce were found in the commode case. Again butter, sauce and mushrooms were marked in the same manner and again they were discovered in the same way. On the 28th May Det. Sergt. O'Sullivan proceeded to the compradore's shop. There he saw the suspected thief and the compradore behind the counter. He searched the premises and found 13lb of butter marked with the letter R, two bottles of sauce, and a tin of mushrooms.

The boy pleaded guilty, but the compradore pleaded not guilty, and the case was remanded.

ARRIVAL OF THE "KALGAN."

Messrs. Butterfield & Swire despatched the s.s. "Tea" (Capt. Outerbridge) at 6 a.m. on the 1st inst. to search for the missing steamer "Kalgan," and H.M.S. "Astrea" left the Harbour at seven o'clock on the same mission. When the cruiser was about thirty-five miles out from Hongkong she received a message by wireless telegraphy stating that the "Kalgan" had been reported from Gap Rock. The "Astrea" thereupon steamed after the "Tea" and reported the intelligence. Both vessels returned to the Harbour about 12 when the "Kalgan" also came in.

The "Kalgan" (Capt. Lewis) left Iloilo, for Hongkong on the 24th ult. at daylight. The wind was then S.S.E., but it subsequently shifted to South. After passing Caba Island at 2 p.m. on the 25th ult. the ship encountered the full force of the typhoon and was driven out of her course to the vicinity of Lingayan Gulf where the Captain deemed it prudent to seek shelter and he anchored there for forty hours until the typhoon had passed away to the North East.

The "Tea," it may be added, left Manila on the 26th ult. and ran right across the track of the typhoon. She reached Hongkong on Saturday morning, twenty-four hours late.

JAPANESE TURBINE STEAMER.

AMERICAN GOOD WISHES.

The keynote on May 29 of the tiffin on board the "Tenyo Maru," the Toyo Kisen Kaisha's new mammoth turbine steamer for the San Francisco run, was sounded by the American Consul-General, Dr. Wilder, who spoke sympathetically of Japanese ambitions, and said there was ample room for all in the Orient.

About seventy representatives of shipping firms, officials, and the Press, looked over the vessel between noon and one p.m. With a gross tonnage of 14,000, a displacement of 22,000 tons, and turbine engines (Parsons) developing a speed of 21 knots, the "Tenyo Maru" is too big to take in during a brief survey. All we can say is that Japanese taste is everywhere obvious, and the internal fittings and adornment of this new liner are beyond praise. It is furnished in a manner that would be admirable in a palace ashore.

After an excellent tiffin, Mr. SILVERSTONE called on the American Consul to speak.

Dr. WILDER worked in a lot of humorous chaff before coming to the set oration that was expected of him, and got his hearers into a thoroughly good listening humour. He then said: Representing a number of Nations, and to an extent, competitors, we join in congratulating our Japanese friends on this handsome ship,—this Twentieth Century, this supreme expression of nautical skill, speed and convenience. There was a day, and some of us remember it, when men in the same line of business regarded each others as natural enemies. Even their women folks looked coldly at each other and for their children to walk home from school together or to investigate the moonlight under romantic circumstances spelled disloyalty to the clan and disrespect to the fathers. A little later the dictum "Live and Let Live" was given some recognition and the grocery man sometimes growled out "Good Morning" to his rival, and the tailor was willing to concede that his competitor down the street might possibly get to heaven, however little he might deserve it. But these days of misunderstanding and unlovely divisions have passed; and now in civilized lands men in the same occupations have come to see that not only is it good for brothers to dwell together in unity but that the interests of honourable competitors are identical; business breeds business, they seek the same ends and can best secure them by fair mutual recognition and co-operation. Trade and Commerce, certainly in such an undeveloped and expansive territory as the Orient is not a cake of fixed proportions, of which there are a limited number of pieces. Rather it is a field in which there is room for many workers and each growth not only yields its own fruit, but fertilizes what is near it. The more trade there is, the more there will be. The more of China's 40,000,000 are taught to enjoy the surplus of other lands, the greater the demand from new contingents of this great population who have heard the good news. Especially does Hongkong, which is an exchange rather than a producing centre, profit by every new means of communication, linking up China with its exports and imports to other nations. Commerce is not a fixed quantity; it is an education, a boundless population, and the awakening wants of the Chinese nation; and he is a raw man who does not know his political economy who conceives that it is a boon to anyone to circumscribe the trade of this Empire and who laments new ventures to teach it to buy and sell, even to remote Yunnan and Szechwan. Growth is the law of commerce if it is to prosper—new provinces must be enrolled in trade, and it is a benefit to all when new and vigorous forces enter the field to provide fresh supplies to be carried away and to teach new wants to be catered to from abroad. No one can live long in Hongkong, no one can look about this board and see the faces of these Britons, bringing cheer to this important expansion by the Japanese, in a harbour and in a trade-territory made possible by the sacrifices, the hardships, the sufferings, and bloodshed of British fathers, without an involuntary tribute of gratitude, and admiration to the generous spirit and the broad policies of

the British Empire. She has not lived to herself alone. I never pass those silent dead in the Chinese village of Stanley, I never read of the violence, alarms and desolating loneliness of the early decades while this Colony was desperately seeking a foothold exposed to attack by the natives and neglect and ridicule by the nations, without feeling something of the debt every American, every German, French, Italian, Scandinavian, every Japanese—who makes home or profit here owes to the British people; and without marvelling at the broad and lofty character of her State-craft. Proudly conscious of her dominance, she has gone her way as a gracious lady bountiful, rich in her possessions and accretions and letting fall where they will the overflow of good things for others. Or rather, she early laid hold of the profound truth of the proverb, "These is that scattereth and yet increaseth, and there is that withholdeth more than is meet but it tendeth to poverty." By throwing open her gates and welcoming men of all nations she has made herself a vital part of many activities otherwise denied her. Macao throws down no gates—by seeking to save her life, she has lost it. Great Britain conquers South Africa at fearful cost and when the worldly wise look now to see a rich feast of conquest, her people make citizens of those lately in arms against her and stifle hate by bidding the enemy return to their fields, now well ordered under a government of justice, to enjoy individual freedom and equal opportunity with the victors. It is the highest form of statesmanship and even of expediency, despite the carpers, for in it is goodwill, faith in man, and the confidence in herself which commands leadership. The world has seen no such self-control and magnanimity since Lee surrendered at Appomattox and the Conqueror Grant bade him keep his sword, and his men their horses, that they might resume their farms and work with their brothers for the healing of the nation. To the Japanese in this and all their efforts, right-minded men of all nations wish well. When men's minds are too closely bent to local and transient phases of a topic that engages them so intently as have the spirit and destiny of this people in thirty years, it is time to reflect less on their failings and more on their virtues. Certainly no nation ever so quickly and with such admirable individual abnegation, docility, and perseverance; let go the things of antiquity and hold of the best things of modern civilization. This proud ship built in Japan—the first turbine propelled to fret the waters of a harbour where an average of 22 steamships of all nations daily enter from the outer seas, bears no resemblance to the pitiful sampans that looked in frightened wonder on Commodore Perry's squadron half a century ago; nor does it seem possible that the modern Japanese nation with all its equipment of peace and war commanding the respect of experts, could be evolved in so short a time. Japan has her problems; she must be a burden bearer as her sister nations. We would she diverted her budget from armaments to industry and multiplied smokestacks on factories rather than on battleships. But advice is meant to give, not to take; she must learn in the grim school of experience as do we all. It is enough for us to-day to rejoice that a new brother exulting in his strength joins the family of modern nations. Touched by a spirit of brotherhood, we give Japan welcome and promise her the sympathy and co-operation of men who love their fellows. To the "Tenyo Maru," to her captain, to beautiful Japan and her ambitious people,—God speed! [Applause.]

The new Japanese Consul, Mr. FUNATSU, an estimable and scholarly gentleman who has been in the Colony only three weeks, thanked the American Consul for his friendly sentiments, and proposed success to the new steamer. He personally rejoiced at these evidences of good feeling between America and Japan. There was not and never had been any real reason for hostility, and he trusted that the "Tenyo Maru" might long serve as a link between two people who had every reason for liking and esteeming each other. [Applause.]

Mr. K. MATSUDA uttered a courteous welcome on behalf of Mr. S. Asano, the President of the Toyo Kisen Kaisha, and Captain Goin, of the "Tenyo Maru," made a humorous speech in eulogy of the new ship.

THE CHINA MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE CO., LTD. SHANGHAI.

The Directors' report presented at the tenth annual meeting of the China Mutual Life Insurance Company, Limited, held at Shanghai on May, 28th was as follows:—

TENTH ANNUAL REPORT.

Your Directors beg to submit four considerations their report for the tenth year ending March 31st, 1908.

Notwithstanding continued adverse trade conditions in China and elsewhere during the entire year under review, your Directors are again able to present a record of progress unequalled by any previous year in the Company's history. Special interest attaches to the report now presented, shewing as it does the standing of the Company on completion of the first decade of its existence. It will be seen that a notable change has been made this year in the form of submitting the accounts. This has been rendered necessary owing to the decision to report annually to the Board of Trade in England, the return being made according to the form required by the English Authorities.

NEW BUSINESS.

The new applications received during the year amounted to \$12,258,460 being an increase over the preceding year of \$1,628,163.00. Policies were issued for \$11,507,093.67. Applications amounting to \$751,369.33 were postponed or declined as being below the required standard of health.

The Total Insurance in force as at 31st March 1908 amounted to \$33,592,097.33 under 14,575 policies.

INCOME.

The total income for the year amounted to \$2,637,194.45, a gain over the previous year of \$360,235.72.

INTEREST.

The income from interest amounted to \$323,563.37.

ASSETS.

The total assets now amount to \$5,928,036.41.

RESERVE AND SURPLUS.

These items as required by the new form, appear this year under the heading of insurance fund, which represents the amount held by the Company as reserve liability for the security of policyholders, and for distribution as bonuses.

The amount of the insurance fund is \$5,733,291.84. If the accounts for the preceding year had been presented in the same manner the amount would then have been \$4,694,676.05, thus shewing a gain in the fund during the past year of \$1,038,615.79.

The revenue account and general balance sheet from which the above figures are taken have been duly certified as correct by your auditors, Messrs. A. R. Leake & Co., who have also examined the Company's securities.

In accordance with the Deed of Settlement, Mr. J. A. Wattie retires from the Directorate, but being eligible offers himself for re-election.

R. MACGREGOR, Chairman.
C. STEPHANUS, Director.
LEE YUNG SU, Director.
J. A. WATTIE, Managing Director.
ARTHUR J. HUGHES, Secretary.
S. H. NEILL, F.I.A., Actuary.
Medical Directors:
G. E. GOODE, M.R.C.S., L.E.C.P.
HERMANN, BAILEY, M.D., B.S.

PROGRESS OF THE COMPANY.

On the 31st March 1908 the Company completed its 10th year. The following is a comparative statement, shewing the total assets, total business in force, and the amount of the insurance fund held for the security of policyholders as at the end of each quinquennial period, also the premium, interest and total income for the years ending 31st March 1903 and 1908.

TOTAL ASSETS.	
For first 5 years ending 31st March 1903	\$ 854,401.33
For second 5 years ending 31st March 1908	5,923,036.00
INSURANCE IN FORCE.	
For first 5 years ending 31st March 1903	\$9,270,666.67
For second 5 years ending 31st March 1908	33,592,000.00
INSURANCE FUND.	
For first 5 years ending 31st March 1903	\$758,066.67
For second 5 years ending 31st March 1908	5,733,292.00
PREMIUM INCOME.	
For year ending 31st March 1903	791,645.33
For year ending 31st March 1908	2,308,770.67
INTEREST INCOME.	
For year ending 31st March 1903	\$39,477.33
For year ending 31st March 1908	323,562.67
TOTAL INCOME.	
For year ending 31st March 1903	\$831,122.67
For year ending 31st March 1908	2,637,194.67
REVENUE ACCOUNT.	
for the year ending, 31st March, 1908.	

Amount of Funds at the beginning of the year	4,705,491.37
Premiums received (after deduction of Re-Assurances)	2,308,770.95
Consideration for Annuities granted	4,869.13
Interest	321,563.37
	\$7,342,686.82
Claims under policies	576,119.51
Surrenders	130,092.25
Payments to annuitants	1,350.93
Commission	609,720.96
Expenses of management	281,063.41
Dividend to shareholders	8,047.92
Amount of Funds at the end of the Year	5,733,291.84
	\$7,342,686.82

GENERAL BALANCE SHEET.

LIABILITIES.	
Shareholders' Capital:—	\$
Subscribed	666,666.67
Less not called up	600,000.00
	66,666.67
Insurance fund	5,733,291.84
Claims admitted but not paid	58,533.33
Sundry creditors	69,544.57
	\$5,928,036.41
ASSETS.	
Mortgages on Property in Shanghai	2,206,656.17
Loans on Company's policies	417,131.72
Loans on stocks	110,699.27
Investment:—Stocks and shares	450,544.61
Debentures, Shanghai Municipal Council and others	1,475,092.19
House property, company's building	210,497.00
Agents' Balances	118,118.23
Outstanding premiums	541,962.75
Deferred premiums	184,311.81
Outstanding interest	3,408.20
Accrued interest	40,578.37
Cash on Hand	68,954.52
Cash in bank, current account	72,082.57
Office furniture, Head Office & agencies.	28,000.00
	\$5,928,036.41

COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS:—

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, June 6th.

Quotations are:—	
Malwa New	\$980 per picul.
Malwa Old	\$1000 do.
Malwa Older	\$1030 do.
Malwa Very Old	\$1070 do.
Persian Fine Quality	\$800 do.
Persian Extra Fine	\$880 do.
Patna New	\$1140 per chest.
Patna Old	do.
Benares New	\$1070 do.
Benares Old	do.

RICE.

HONGKONG, 8th June, 1908.—The market continues firm and prices show a rising tendency. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary	\$4.80 to \$5.00
" Round, Good quality	5.00 to 5.05
" Long	5.50 to 5.65
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2	4.50 to 4.55
" Garden, " No. 1	5.00 to 5.05
" White,	5.00 to 5.65
" Fine Cargo	6.05 to 6.25

AMOI.—The import for the week ending 20th May amounted to 29,164 piculs.

SAIGON.—Messrs. Wm. G. Hale & Co.'s in their Circular, dated 29th May, report that the market closes quiet. Quotations for July and August delivery are as follows:—

No. 2 White sifted (<i>trié</i>) steam milled round	\$8.76
No. 2 White unsifted (<i>ordinaire</i>) steam milled round	4.33
5 % Cargo steam milled round	3.26
10 % Cargo steam milled round	3.22
20 % Cargo steam milled round	3.22
* Prices according to terms and conditions.	

The following is a statement of this year's Exports of White Rice, Cargo Rice and Paddy:—

Destination.	Previously	Since the 3rd April.	Total pos.
Hongkong	1,656,500	210,100	1,866,600
Shanghai	76,400	—	76,400
Ningpo	45,300	—	45,300
Manila	330,800	51,800	382,600
Iloilo	57,000	23,100	80,100
Cebu	227,900	24,700	252,600
Japan	641,000	263,900	904,900
Singapore	251,600	28,400	278,000
Batavia	85,500	23,500	109,000
Samarang	107,800	—	107,800
Passoeran	31,000	—	31,000
Sourabaya	514,200	—	514,200
Noumea	24,000	—	24,000
Reunion	—	185,100	185,100
Europe	1,373,900	578,000	1,951,900

Total..... 6,422,900 1,336,600 6,759,500
Same period of last year.....9,166,400

Tonnage.—Quotations stand as follows: 10 cents to Hongkong; 21/22 cents to Java; 22/23 cents to the Philippines; 20/21 cents to Japan and 10/11 cents to Singapore.

Charters.—The following are the settlements:—

	piculs	cts. per picul
Ger. s.s. Signal	30,000 to H.K. at	11 Ct.
Ger. s.s. Hilary	33,000 " " "	11 "
Br. s.s. Nam Yong	30,000 " S'pore "	10 "
Br. s.s. Taishan	32,000 to H.K. at	10 "

YARN.

SHANGHAI, May 28th.—Bombay spinnings have undergone some fluctuations during the week, more under the influence of the silver market than that of demand, of which there has been a fair amount for all counts. Japanese yarn is improving and local is firm.

From Messrs. Tata, Sons & Co.'s report, dated Shanghai, May 25th:—The gambling propensity of the Chinese has been strongly in evidence for the last few days and the heavy selling operations they indulged in for three or four days consistently without any incident to warrant this action brought about a somewhat sharp reaction in Silver which has been forced up to 2.4½d. Whether this artificial state of things is going to last is open to grave suspicion, specially as there is no visible chance of India buying for some time to come; and a re-actionary tendency has already set in since Saturday last.

The following statistics of Cotton spinning and weaving in the Indian mills, during the nine months ending December 1907, compared with the corresponding period of 1905 and 1906, may be found interesting, as tending to show the steady diminution of export of yarns to China, and the increasing absorption of the same by mills themselves for weaving purposes.

lb. Yarn.	lb. Cloth.
1905=512,852,861	437,845,906
1906=500,199,491	548,301,469
1907=479,566,431	620,456,116

PIECE GOODS.

SHANGHAI.—From Messrs. Ibert & Co.'s weekly Report, dated May 28th:—Another quiet week has to be recorded in which comparatively little has been done, but when business has been put in the book the tendency has been towards firmer prices. Chinese are doubtful whether the great advance in cotton will be maintained throughout the summer; in this connexion it may be remembered that good authorities predicted several months ago that there would be keen competition for cotton in May, and that good qualities would be scarce throughout the summer. The first half of the prediction has been borne out, and latest advices from Liverpool state that importers have difficulty in buying suitable cotton in America where, in order to get white colour, buyers are compelled to take a large proportion of stained and tingy with it. The present quotation for middling, 6.68d. is higher than it has been since October, with the exception of one day in January and it may be that there will be some reaction until consumptive demand improves; but at present the prospect is that in the West, as in China, good cotton will be all used up before the new season opens. Exchange, after opening at higher rates, is closing weaker; apparently in the absence of an active demand from India, sellers find difficulty in placing supplies. We are now within a couple of weeks of the change of monsoon in India, and unless there is to be a scarcity of rain this year, some revival of business may be looked for in that important market, which may change the whole aspect of trade by creating a revival of confidence generally. The Returns of Trade by the Statistical Department of the Customs has been issued and contains much interesting information; it is stated therein that Indian imports of silver in October and November 1907, when the decline in silver began, were about half of the amount imported in the corresponding months of 1906, and doubtless India has since then taken much smaller supplies than formerly. The export of silver from China referred to in the Returns is not a very healthy sign. Last year India took from China and Hongkong, Haikwan, Tls. 16,484,836; Last year Europe took from China and Hongkong, Haikwan, Tls. 2,874,827; Straits Settlements took from China and Hongkong Haikwan, Tls. 5,182,537, little or none of which apparently came back; the net export from China, excluding Hongkong, after deducting imports, according to these Returns, is Haikwan Tls. 22,503,881.00, which at the average exchange then current was equivalent to £2,200,000. No large transactions have transpired except in American sheetings, of which about 60,000 pieces are reported at prices that mark an advance of about a mace per piece on last week's rates. Sales are also said to have made of about 10,000 bales of native sheetings. As these goods are 18-in. 20 yards, the quantity is about the equivalent of 5,500 bales of American goods and prices are 7½ to 11½ cands. per piece above former rate. Local Yarn is firm, but demand is not quite so active; local Cotton has again advanced and is now quoted at Tls. 22.00 for Tungchow. It is said that one Chinese mill will close down, and probably others will follow this example unless cotton becomes easier.

EXPORTS:—

SILK.

SHANGHAI.—From Mr. F. C. Heffer's report, dated Shanghai, May 27th, 1908. Raw Silk.—The rise in exchange combined with improved crop prospects has rendered holders easier to deal with. Settlements amount to about 200 bales Tsatlees, price declining Tls. 10 per picul.

Hand Filatures.—The balance of stock of Crack chops has been sold at Tls. 670 for Vekes Old Man Extra. Pegasus 1 ordinary reel has found buyers at Tls. 595.

Tussah Filatures.—Demand has now fallen off on account of advance in prices. Settlements have been made on the basis of Tls. 345 to 350 for Spinning Girl 1.

Quotations in Taels per picul.

Tsatlees.—Grasshopper	550
Gold Lion	495
Buffalo 2 & 3	568½ to 543½
Hand Filatures.—Pegasus 1, 2, Ord. 595 to 585	
Yellow Silk.—Mienchew	365
Kopun	310

YOKOHAMA.—The total export of raw silk from Yokohama during the 10 months from July last year to April this amounted to 82,834 bales.

TEA

HANKOW, 20th May, 1908.—Business reported since the 13th inst., is as under:—

	1908.	1907.
↓-Cheats.	↓-Cheats	
Settlements	57,166	nil

Consisting of the following Teas:—

	↓-Cheats.	per picul
Ningchows	2,044 at Tls. 21.00	at \$7.00
Khemuns	42,703 "	32.00 " 67.00
Oopacks	4,262 "	21.50 " 23.75
Oonams	1,410 "	20.50 " 28.00
Oofaas	3,896 "	30.00 " 36.00
Seang-tams	2,354 "	17.00 " 18.50

The following are Statistics at date compared with the corresponding circular of last season, viz, 22nd May, 1906:—

	1908.	1907.
HANKOW TEA	↓-Cheats.	↓-Cheats.
Settlements	12,422	184,971
Stock	113,720	65,233
Arrivals	126,142	250,204

	1908.	1907.
KIUKIANG TEA.	↓-Cheats.	↓-Cheats.
Settlements	44,744	60,802
Stock	46,983	62,929
Arrivals	91,727	123,791

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, June 8th.—The price of Formosan camphor has advanced during the week, the quotation now being \$92 to \$95 per picul.

SUGAR.

Reports from Formosa are to the effect that the Sugar market is in an unsatisfactory condition owing to monetary stringency in Japan. There are but few buyers in the market and prices have weakened considerably.

HEMP.

YOKOHAMA.—The report of the Teikoku Seima Kaisha (Japanese Empire Hemp Manufacturing Co.) for the first half of the year, since the amalgamation of the four principal hemp manufacturing companies shows an output of 1,980,475 yards of hemp and 2,894,868 lbs., of hemp string. The total value of the output was Y.2,140,194. The half year ended January 31 last.

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per P. & O. steamer *Delta*, sailed on 30th May, 1908:—For Manchester:—100 bales waste silk. For Hamburg:—24 cases cigars and cut tobacco. For Bradford:—40 bales waste silk. For Lyons:—67 bales raw silk. For Marseilles:—52 cases cigars, 4 cases bird feathers, 50 bales waste silk, 16 bales raw silk. For Gibraltar:—1 case silk piece goods, 35 cases cut tobacco, 16 cases cigars. For London:—2,393 packages tea, 4 cases silk piece goods, 55 bales raw silk, 210 bales waste silk, 14 boxes gold sovereigns, 36 cases cigars, 50 bales mats, 11 packages private effects, 9 cases birds feathers, 50 bales mats 2 packages old racquet balls, 1 case iron pipe fittings, 1 case cottons. For Naples:—5 cases cigars.

Per P. & O. steamer *Sumatra* sailed on 3rd June, 1908:—For Antwerp:—6 packages canes. For Marseilles:—15 bales human hair. For Gibraltar:—1 case curio. For London:—200 bales waste silk, 90 cases chinaware, 9 cases woodware, 2 cases bambooware, 10 cases private effects, 1 case organ pipe.

HANKOW, 20th May, 1906.—The prices quoted are for the net shipping weight excluding cost of packing for export:—

Per picul

Cowhides, Best selected	Tls. 30.00
Do. Seconds	" 26.00
Buffalo hides, Best selected	" 23.00
Goatskins, untanned, chiefly white colour	" —
Buffalo Horns, average 8 lbs, each	" —
White China Grass, Wuchang and/or Poochi	" 8.70
White China Grass, Sinahan and/or Chayu	" 8.00
Green China Grass, Szechuen	" 7.70
Jute	" —
White Vegetable Tallow, Kinchow	" 10.60
White Vegetable Tallow, Pingchow and/or Macheng	" —
White Vegetable Tallow, Mongyu	" 10.10
Green Vegetable Tallow, Kiyu	" 10.00
Animal Tallow	" 10.30
Gallnuts, usual shape	" 15.20
Gallnuts, plum do.	" 17.50
Tobacco, Tingchow	" —
Tobacco, Wongkong	" —
Feathers, grey and/or white Wild Duck	" —
Turmeric	" —
Sesamum Seed	" 5.85
Sesamum Seed Oil	" —
Wood Oil	" 8.70
Tea Oil	" —

HONGKONG SHARE QUOTATIONS.

HONGKONG, 4th June, 1908.—Our market has ruled steady to firm during the past week, the features calling for special mention being an improvement in Docks, and a further firmness in Sugars. Exchange has remained fairly steady during the interval, and closes at ls. 9½d. T/T on London, and 7½ T/T on Shanghai. Bar silver is quoted at 24½d.

BANKS.—Hongkong & Shanghai are quieter locally with sales at \$752½ and \$750, and London at the slightly lower rate of £76. Nationals are again without change, but in request at \$51.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions after a small sale at \$795 are procurable at the rate and there are also sellers of North Chinas at Tls. 78, and Cantons at \$235. China Traders continue in request at \$86½.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Chinas have again been booked at \$93 and Hongkongs at \$917½, both closing in request.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have been booked freely at \$29½ at which the market closes steady with probable buyers. Indo-Chinas could probably be placed at quotations, but sellers predominate in China and Manila, Star Ferries and Shell Transports at current rates. Douglases are quiet with a weakening tendency at \$40.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have been booked at \$125, \$127½ and \$130, and there are further buyers at the latter rate. Luxons have been sold and are still procurable to a small extent at \$22.

MINING.—Charbonnages are firmer with buyers at \$570, but Raubs are easier with sales and some sellers at \$5.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have improved considerably, and after sales at \$103, \$104, \$105 and \$106 can now be placed at \$107. A small sale of Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves is reported at \$52, market closing with sellers at \$51½. New Amoy Docks are in request at \$9½, and Shanghai Docks at Tls. 89, with reported sellers at Tls. 90. Shanghai and Hongkong Wharves are firm at Tls. 229.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have been booked at \$99. Kowloon Lands at \$26, and Hotels at \$95, the latter

closing with sellers. West Points are somewhat easier with sales and probable sellers at \$48. Humphreys Estates are wanted at \$10, and Shanghai Lands in the North at Tls. 119.

COTTON MILLS.—Hongkongs have been sold and are still in request at \$10½. There is no change to report in the quotations for the Northern Mills.

MISCELLANEOUS.—China Borneos are firm at \$10½, and China Providents at the improved rate of \$9½. Dairy Farms have been booked at \$19½, and Cements at \$10½, the latter closing with probable buyers. There are buyers of Electrics at \$15½, Ropes at \$30, Ices at \$225, Union Water Boats at \$10½, and China Light and Powers at \$8½. Langkats have improved in the North to \$520.

Quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Alhambra	Pa. 200	Nominal
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	\$750, buyers
National B. of China	26	\$51, buyers
Bell's Asbestos E. A...	12s. 6d.	\$7½, sellers
China-Borneo Co.	\$12	\$10½
China Light & P. Co.	{ \$10 } { \$1 }	\$6½, buyers
China Provident	\$10	\$9½, buyers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 50	Tls. 58
Hongkong	\$10	\$10½, buyers
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 83
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 77½
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 260
Dairy Farm	\$8	\$19½ sales
Docks & Wharves—		
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$51½, sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$107, buyers
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$9½, buyers
Shanghai Dock and Eng. Co., Ltd.	Tls. 100	Tls. 90, sellers
S'hai & H. Wharf	Tls. 100	Tls. 229
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$13, sellers
G. Island Cement	\$10	\$10½, sales & sel.
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$175 sales & b., x.d.
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$15½, buyers
Hongkong Hotel Co.	\$50	\$95, sellers
Hongkong Ice Co.	\$25	\$225, buyers
H. K. Milling Co., Ltd.	\$100	Nominal
Hongkong Rope Co.	\$10	\$30, buyers
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	\$235, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$92, buyers
China Traders	\$25	\$86½, buyers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$315, buyers
North China	\$25	Tls. 78, sellers
Union	\$100	\$795 sales & sel.
Yangtze	\$60	\$147½
Land and Buildings—		
H'kong Land Invest.	\$100	\$99, sales
Humphrey's Estate	\$10	\$10, buyers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$26 sales
Shanghai Land	Tls. 50	Tls. 119
West Point Building	\$50	\$48, sales
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$570, buyers
Raubs	18/10	\$8, sellers
Peak Tramways	{ \$10 } { \$1 }	\$14, sellers
Philippine Co.	\$10	\$8 sellers
Refineries—		
China Sugar	\$100	\$127½, buyers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$22, sales
Steamship Companies		
China and Manila	\$25	\$15, sellers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$40
H. Canton & M.	\$15	\$29½
Indo-China S. N. Co.	\$25	\$24
Shell Transport Co.	\$1	45/-sellers
Star Ferry	\$10	\$25, x.d., sellers
Do. New	\$5	\$15, x.d., sellers
South China M. Post.	\$25	\$23, buyers
Steam Laundry Co.	\$5	\$6 sellers
Stores & Dispensaries.		
Campbell, M. & Co.	\$10	\$15
Powell & Co., Wm.	\$10	\$5½
Watkins	\$10	\$3, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$9½, x.d.
Wiemann Ltd.	\$100	\$100
United Asbestos	\$4	\$13, buyers
Do. Founders	\$10	\$150, buyers
Union Waterboat Co.	\$10	\$10½, buyers

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

SHANGHAI SHARE QUOTATIONS.

28th May, 1908.

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATION.
Banks:—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	\$750, buyers
National of China...	26	\$51, buyers
Russo-Chinese	{ R187½ } { T125 }	Tls. 175, sellers
Insurance:—		
Union Society C'ton	\$100	\$795, sellers
North-China	25	Tls. 77½, sellers
Yangtze Assocn.	\$60	\$150, buyers
Canton	\$50	\$230, sales
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$312½, buyers
China Fire	\$20	\$92, sales
Shipping:—		
Indo-China { pref. } { def. }	210	Tls. 30, sellers Tls. 15, sellers
Shell Trans. { ord. }	21	\$25.0, sellers
& Trading { pref. }	10	\$29.10, sellers
S'hai Tug & ord.	T50	Tls. 43, sellers
Lighter { pref. }	T50	Tls. 51, sellers
Taku Tug & Lighter	T50	Tls. 47½, sellers
Docks & Wharves:—		
S'hai Dock & Eng...	T100	Tls. 87, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$97½, buyers
S. & H'kew Wharf	T100	Tls. 225, sellers
H. K'loon W. & G...	\$50	\$53, sellers
Yangtze	T100	Tls. 217½, sales
Sugar Companies:—		
Perak Cultivation...	T50	Tls. 77½, buyers
China Refining	\$100	\$135, sellers
Mining:—		
Raub Australian	21	\$8, sellers
Chinese Eng. & Min.	18/10	Tls. 15½, sellers
Lands:—		
S'hai Investment...	T50	Tls. 119, sellers
H'kong Investment	\$100	\$100, sellers
Humphreys' Estate	\$10	\$10½, sales
Weihaiwei	T25	\$9, sellers
China	T50	Tls. 50, sellers
Anglo-French	T100	Tls. 99, buyers
Cotton:—		
Ewo	T50	Tls. 58, buyers
International	T75	Tls. 63, sellers
Laou Kung Mow	T100	Tls. 77½, sellers
Soy Chee	T500	Tls. 260, sellers
H'kong C. S. W. D.	\$10	\$9, buyers
Industrial:—		
Shanghai Gas	T50	Tls. 109, sellers
Major Brothers	T50	Tls. 45, buyers
Shanghai Ice	T25	Tls. 14, sales
China Flour Mill	T50	Tls. 56, buyers
S'hai Pulp & Paper	T100	Tls. 47, buyers
Green Is. Cement	\$10	\$11, sellers
Maatschappij, &c., in Langkat	G 100	Tls. 515, sellers
Shanghai - Sumatra Tobacco	T20	Tls. 95, sellers
S'hai Waterworks	\$20	T380, sales
Anglo-Ger. Brewery	100	\$85, buyers
A. Butler Cement, Tile Works	50	\$35, sales
Kalumpang Rubber	50	\$50, sellers
Eastern Fibre	10	nominal
Shanghai Electric Construction	£10	£9.12/6, sales
Miscellaneous:—		
Hall & Holtz	\$20	\$20, sellers
A. Llewellyn	\$60	\$43, buyers
A. S. Watson & Co.	\$10	\$11½, sellers
Central Ordinary	\$15	\$12½, sellers
Central Founders	\$15	\$400, buyers
S. Moutrie & Co.	\$50	\$50, buyers
Weeks & Co.	\$20	\$20½, x. d. sellers
Astor House Hotel	\$25	\$22, sellers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$98, sellers
Hotel des Colonies	T25	Tls. 8, sellers
Tsingtao Hotel	\$100	nominal
Lane, Crawford & Co.	100	\$145, sellers
Dunning & Co.	50	\$52, sellers
S'hai Horse Bazaar	T50	Tls. 45, sellers
S'hai Mercury	T50	Tls. 50, sellers
S'hai Mutual Tele.	T50	Tls. 54, sellers
China Im. & Ex. Lumber	T100	Tls. 83, sellers
Shanghai Electric & Asbestos	\$25	\$23, sellers
Dallas Horse Repository	T50	Tls. 25, sellers
China Printing Co.	T50	Tls. 50, sellers

J. P. BISSET & Co.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. in their Share Report for the week ending 28th May, state:— Since our last report business has maintained a satisfactory level and a considerable volume of cash and forward trade has been done. The T. T. rate on London to-day is 2/4½. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks: No business is reported and the rate at closing is \$750 buyers. Insurance.— Union Insurances: Offers are wanted for shares at quotations. Yangtze Insurance: There is a demand at \$152½. Shipping.—No transactions are reported this week. Docks and Wharves.— Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co. Ltd.: In the early part of the week cash shares were placed at Tls. 84, and Tls. 87½ for July, but improved rapidly to Tls. 87 cash and Tls. 88½ July, at which rates the market closes with buyers. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharves: Our market since our last has been fairly steady, commencing with sales at Tls. 227½ and Tls. 228 for June; some cash shares coming on the market caused rates to decline to Tls. 225 and Tls. 224, but at the close there is an inquiry for cash and June shares. There are buyers at Tls. 227. Sugars.—There are buyers of Perak Sugars at Tls. 77½. Lands.— Shanghai Lands: We have to report a substantial advance in this stock. On the 21st instant cash shares changed hands at Tls. 116. A considerable demand has prevailed ever since and yesterday cash shares were placed at 120, while some shares for June were made at the same rate. At the close there are a few sellers at Tls. 120 for cash. Anglo-French Lands have been placed at Tls. 99. Industrial.—Ewos: A single transaction is reported at Tls. 59 for June. International Cottons have changed hands at Tls. 65 for June. Shanghai Gas Co. shares have been placed at Tls. 109 and close with sellers. Major Bros. are wanted at Tls. 45. Shanghai Ice Co. shares have declined to Tls. 14. Maatschappij &c. in Langkat: At the beginning of the week the advance established in this stock continued, the cash rate advancing from Tls. 515 to Tls. 525; the June rate coming up from Tls. 520 to Tls. 530. A reaction has since taken place and although cash shares are scarce some shares can be obtained for June at the close at Tls. 520. Shanghai Sumatra Tobacco: A good demand has obtained since our last and the rate has quickly advanced from last week's level of Tls. 90 for cash to Tls. 102. Sales have been made for June at Tls. 105. Shanghai Waterboats: A single transaction is reported at Tls. 380. Shanghai Electric Construction Co.: A small lot has changed hands at £9.10/- and we would quote the rate at closing as £9.12/6. Miscellaneous.—Hall & Holtz have been dealt in at \$19½. Central Stores have changed hands at \$12½. Moutrie: A transaction is reported at Tls. 51. Weeks & Co. shares have been placed at \$20½ ex div. Astor House Hotel shares: Small sales have been made at \$22. This rate cannot be obtained at the close. Hotel des Colonies remain at Tls. 8. Shanghai Mutual Telephones: Small lots have been dealt in at Tls. 54. Loans and Debentures.—A good demand is about for all classes of debentures in our list. Shanghai Municipal six per cents have been taken at three per cent, prem. Perak Sugars seven per cents have been placed at par and half-per cent. Shanghai Gas, Shanghai Waterworks, and Shanghai Land Investment Debentures are all wanted at par.

EXCHANGE.

HONGKONG, June 6th.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/9½
Bank Bills, on demand	1/9½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/9½
Bank Bills at 4 months' sight	1/9½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/9½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/9½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2/4
Credits 4 months' sight	228½
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	182
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	49½
Credits, 60 days' sight	44½
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	134½
Bank, on demand	135½
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	134½
Bank on demand	135½
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	74½
Private, 30 days' sight	75½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	87½

ON MANILA.—	
On demand	87½
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	77
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand	107½
ON HAIPHONG.—	
On demand	8½ p.c. pm.
ON SAIGON.—	
On demand	8 p.c. pm.
ON BANGKOK.—	
On demand	83½
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	\$11.00
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	\$57.75
BAR SILVER, per oz	24½

FREIGHTS.

From Hankow per Conference Steamers.—To London and Northern Continental ports 45/- per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To Genoa, Marseilles or Havre 45/- per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To New York (via Suez) General Cargo 30/- per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight, or New York (via Suez), Tea 37/6 per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To New York (Overland) per carload, Tea G. \$1½ cents per lb gross; less than carload Tea G. \$1½ cents per lb gross plus river freight. To Shanghai.—Tea and General Cargo, Tls. 1.80 to 1.80 per ton, weight or measurement.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

May—	ARRIVALS.
27,	Soshu Maru, Japanese str., from Foochow.
28,	Hinsang, British str., from Haiphong.
28,	Yerimo Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
29,	Banri Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
29,	Cheangchow, Brit. str., from Singapore.
29,	Delta, British str., from Yokohama.
29,	Hilary, German str., from Saigon.
29,	Hongwan I, British str., from Penang.
29,	Kwangtab, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
29,	Phranang, German str., from Bangkok.
29,	Powhatan, British str., from Salina Cruz.
30,	Bourbon, French str., from Saigon.
30,	Canton, Swedish str., from Moji.
30,	Chihli, British str., from Haiphong.
30,	Kowloon, German str., from Wakamatsu.
30,	Kwongsang, British str., from Shanghai.
30,	Manila, German str., from Sydney.
30,	Shaohsing, British str., from Shanghai.
30,	Signal, German str., from Haiphong.
30,	Teau, British str., from Manila.
30,	Vellore, British str., from New York.
31,	Wye, British str., from Kuchinotzu.
31,	Chipshing, British str., from Tientsin.
31,	Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
31,	Hanyang, British str., from Chinkiang.
31,	Iyo Maru, Jap. str., from Yokohama.
31,	Knivsberg, German str., from K. C. Wan.
31,	Laisang, British str., from Calcutta.
31,	Taishan, British str., from Saigon.
31,	Tsurugisan M., Jap. str., from Kuchinotzu.
31,	Yangtze, British str., from Shanghai.

June—	ARRIVALS.
1,	Amigo, German str., from Haiphong.
1,	Bujan Maru, Jap. str., from Foochow.
1,	Devawongse, German str., from Bangkok.
1,	Hailan, French str., from Hoihow.
1,	Inveran, British str., from Newcastle.
1,	Kalgan, British str., from Iloilo.
1,	Omuro Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
1,	Rhein, German transport, from Bremen.
1,	Rubi, British str., from Manila.
1,	Sithonia, German str., from Hankow.
1,	Takasaki Maru, Jap. str., from Singapore.
2,	Amiral Magon, French str., from Singapore.
2,	Buelow, German str., from Yokohama.
2,	Changchow, British str., from Wuhu.
2,	Clan Macintosh, Br. str., from Singapore.
2,	Dortmund, German str., from Singapore.
2,	Kleist, German str., from Hamburg.
2,	Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
2,	Mandal, Norwegian str., from Saigon.
2,	Murex, British str., from Balik Pappan.
2,	Nanshan, American str., from Cavite.
2,	Siam, Danish str., from Copenhagen.
2,	Swanley, British str., from Chinwantao.
2,	Valentia, British str., from Cardiff.
3,	Childar, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
3,	Choshun Maru, Jap. str., from Shanghai.
3,	Choysang, British str., from Shanghai.
3,	Daijin Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.
3,	Eiger, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.

3,	Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
3,	Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
3,	Kiangching, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
3,	Oceano, British str., from Newcastle.
3,	Oriel, British str., from Moji.
3,	Shantung, German str., from Bangkok.
3,	Sumatra, British str., from Yokohama.
3,	Taisang, British str., from Chinkiang.
3,	Tjipanas, Dutch str., from Amoy.
3,	Zweena, British str., from Samarang.
4,	Carnarvonshire, Brit. str., from London.
4,	E. of India, British str., from Vancouver.
4,	Ischia, Italian str., from Singapore.
4,	Korea, Am. str., from San Francisco.
4,	Loongsang, British str., from Manila.
4,	Moyori Maru, Jap. str., from Kobe.
4,	Triumph, German str., from Haiphong.

May—	DEPARTURES.
29,	Aradia, British str., for Shanghai.
29,	Fooksang, British str., for Shanghai.
29,	Haimun, British str., for Coast Ports.
29,	Heim, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
29,	Helene, German str., for Hoihow.
29,	Knivsberg, German str., for K. C. Wan.
29,	Kohsichang, German str., for Bangkok.
29,	Ningpo, British str., for Amoy.
29,	Soshu Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
29,	Solstad, Norwegian str., for Haiphong.
29,	Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
30,	Delta, British str., for Europe, &c.
30,	Glenavon, British str., for Shanghai.
30,	Kutsang, British str., for Singapore.
30,	Rajah, German str., for Bangkok.
30,	Sado Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
30,	Zafiro, British str., for Manila.
31,	Cheangchow, German str., for Amoy.
31,	Hangsang, British str., for Swatow.
31,	Hongwan I, British str., for Amoy.
31,	J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Hoihow.
31,	Joshin Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
31,	Kiukiang, British str., for Swatow.
31,	Marcellus, British str., for Bangkok.
31,	Myrledene, British str., for Hankow.
31,	Reidar, Norwegian str., for Moji.
31,	Romford, British str., for Hakodeta.

June—	DEPARTURES.
1,	Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
1,	Vellore, British str., for Chefoo.
1,	Canton, Swedish str., for Saigon.
2,	Henrik Ibsen, Norw. str., for Sourabaya.
2,	Kiangping, Chinese str., for Wakamatsu.
2,	Rhein, German transport, for Kiaochau.
2,	Signal, German str., for Haiphong.
2,	Soshu Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
2,	Sui Mow, German str., for Haiphong.
2,	Takasaki Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.
2,	Tenyo Maru, Jap. str., for San Francisco.
2,	Buelow, German str., for Europe, &c.
3,	Bujan Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
3,	Chihli, British str., for Hoihow.
3,	Haiching, British str., for Coast Ports.
3,	Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.
3,	Kalgan, British str., for Shanghai.
3,	Kleist, German str., for Shanghai.
3,	Kwongsang, British str., for Shanghai.
3,	Nanshan, American str., for Shanghai.
3,	Sithonia, German str., for Singapore.
3,	Sumatra, British str., for Singapore.
3,	Taiwan, British str., for Saigon.
3,	Teau, British str., for Manila.
3,	Wongkoi, German str., for Bangkok.
3,	Yangtze, British str., for Singapore.
3,	Yerimo Maru, Jap. str., for Kraksaan.
4,	Amigo, German str., for Hoihow.
4,	Amiral Magon, French str., for Shanghai.
4,	Clan Macintosh, British str., for Amoy.
4,	E. of China, British str., for Vancouver.
4,	Murex, British str., for Balik Pappan.
4,	Oceano, British str., for Hongay.
4,	S. Rickmers, Dutch str., for Palambang.
4,	Shaohsing, British str., for Amoy.
4,	Siam, British str., for Shanghai.
4,	Tsurugisan M., Jap. str., for Ocean Island.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Korea, from San Francisco via Ports, Mr and Mrs P. W. Werley, Mr and Mrs Benj. F. Meyer, Mr and Mrs W. B. Davenport, Mr and Mrs W. A. Smith, Rev. and Mrs A. Willard Cooper, Mrs L. S. Bainbridge, Mrs L. G. Smith, Mrs M. Hayden, Mrs C. Roth, Misses F. Miebuhr, A. B. Reige, Bessie Judd, Florence Hoffman, Messrs. E. Burton Holmes, Oscar Depue, Carl Ekman, D. G. Beebe, H. M. Smith, P. W. Tinan, C. Parry, P. Golding, L. Knox and L. Fortier.

Per *Empress of India*, from Vancouver, Miss Matthew, Miss Robbins, Messrs. S. McDougall and W. D. Carpenter.

Per *Buelow*, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, Mr and Mrs Shellim, Mrs H. C. Egbert, Mrs W. L. Goolsborough; from Kobe, Mr and Mrs J. H. Allen, and Mr A. Link, from Shanghai, Miss Park, Messrs. Sherer and Maers.

Per *Kleist*, for Hongkong, from Hamburg, Messrs. Wilh. Vark, Otto Ziesing, Rob. Hanan and B. Hinkel; from Genoa, Mr and Mrs Krempien, Mr and Mrs Petersen, Miss R. Loosli, Miss K. Weichel, and Mr C. Strohm; from Naples, Mr and Mrs Wroe; from Port Said, Mr Percy G. McDonald; from Singapore, Dr. Med. Loyal, and Mr Iwamasa.

DEPARTED.

Per *Buelow*, for Bremen, &c., Mr and Mrs Bicknell, Mr and Mrs Chandler, Mr and Mrs Morrison, Mr and Mrs Olive, Mr and Mrs Outram, Mr and Mrs U. v. Roll, Mr and Mrs Murray Warner, Dr. and Mrs Junghans, Mrs McGill and 3 children, Mrs Paget, Mrs A. A. Robin, Mrs Warren, Misses L. A. Clendenia, Huttow, Horrack, Harvey and Agnes Roat, Lieut. J. M. P. Potts, Messrs. C. K. Bliss, F. Balabrega, Beck, E. C. Barton, Otley Beyer, R. L. Cooper, Bruder Canisius, H. Denavan, W. Einstmann, R. M. Elder, P. Erdweg, Fraenkel, A. van Gumys, D. C. Hayne, C. Heinszen, Fritz Knoch, F. Lieb, C. K. Loo, Leuss, Frank J. Llewellyn, G. M. Laidlow, G. Ludwig, W. Melohers, L. M. Newton, P. Overgaauw, Royaards, Schumacher, Staal, Fritz Schwartzkopf, E. v. Strauch, C. A. Stevens and G. Tomlin.

Per *Kleist*, for Shanghai, Mr., Mrs and (2) Misses Silva and child, Mr and Mrs Danneil, Mrs Wendt and 2 children, Mrs C. Capell, Mrs Sydney, Miss E. Thormaehlen, Dr. W. Greif, Messrs. G. B. Atkinson, Horne, S. Fischer, H. B. Bridger, A. Aftalion, B. H. Gowing, A. Kahse, Lyons and Dohme; for Nagasaki, Messrs. Avdakov, Grechhoff and J. Nakamura; for Kobe, Mr and Mrs Malson, Messrs. H. O. Hammerstein and D. D. Kanga; for Yokohama, Mrs Summers & baby, Mrs Mather, Mrs Kayo Ishee, Mrs Chin and child, Mrs Packham and family, Messrs. Jos Schmittmann, Arthur Siebner, Vernon, F. Silva, Edward Fesner, Summer, F. Tuoknung and C. Yatmann.

Per *Empress of China*, for Vancouver, &c., Mr and Mrs Linley, Mr and Mrs Acheson, Mr., Mrs and (2) Misses Gordon, Mr and Mrs Briggs, Mr and Mrs Cue, Mr and Mrs Sena, Mr and Mrs Halls, Mr and Mrs Waldron, Dr., Mrs and Miss Bradley and 2 children, Mr and Miss Henderson, Mr and Miss Summer, Mrs Peters, Mrs d'Epinay, Misses (2) Howland, Houlder, Ven, M. Mallac, A. Mallac, Biet, Whittaker, Tanner, (2) Austin, Johnson and Wright, Capt. Jones, Capt. Kitto, Messrs. Dicks, Lowe, Hill, E. Howland, Newbold, Delafonde, Urquhart, Harrison, Wilkinson, C. Furiel, G. Bodin, J. Richl, Lewelen, Becker, Hagen, Mallac, Brooks, Walker, Kenway, Hutchinson, T. Hedewerth, Cooker, F. W. A. Clarke, Meiklejohn, Selaman, Mariott, Oviedo, Shields, Bertram, Strickland, Paunt, Turnbull, Norton, Abraham, Cresswell and Mitchell.

Per *Tenyo Maru*, for San Francisco, &c., Mr and Mrs H. A. Belden, Mr and Mrs W. C. Assay, Mr and Mrs B. L. Richardson, Mr and Mrs H. F. Haines, Mr and Mrs A. W. Whedon, Mr and Mrs H. Humphrey, Mrs Bergholz, Mrs Mrs C. O. Barker, Mrs B. B. Atherton, Mrs J. J. Richards and son, Mrs Geo. E. Cross, Mrs J. Rebein, Mrs Chin, Misses E. Hamilton, Ada Barker, Alice R. Barker, Jones, K. Atherton, Flashman, Souza, Perrault and A. Schoch, Hon. Leo. Bergholz, Messrs. F. W. Killen C. Richards, W. C. Barker, B. Mantell, C. E. Stegmeir, W. D. MacClintock, H. M. Wheeler, J. D. Van Vleck, H. Hall, S. Farnsworth, E. V. Thorn, F. A. Gardner, M. Hara, T. Sumii, E. J. Hutchinson, L. M. Laveras, A. H. Pease, E. H. Hinds, J. H. Gardiner, H. P. Butler, J. Haynes, F. Rae, W. Gardiner, W. J. Burns, B. J. Allen, jr., C. B. Graves, J. Lambert, A. Jafferboy, G. Sheermohamad, J. B. McKinley, A. C. Wyndham, C. A. Reynolds, R. H. Nelson and J. Doi.

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